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THE EDITOR cannot undertake to return, or to correspond with the writers of, rejected manuscript.

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LITERATURE.

The German Arctic Expedition of 1869-70, and a Narrative of the Wreck of the "Hansa" in the Ice. By Captain Koldewey, Commander of the Expedition, assisted by Members of the Scientific Staff. Translated and Abridged by the Rev. L. Mercier, M.A., and Edited by H. W. Bates, F.L.S., Assistant Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society. (London: Low, Marston, Low, and Searle, 1874.)

"GREENLAND," writes honest Edward Pellham, first of English seamen who wintered in Spitzbergen and had the good fortune—scurvy-riddled—to come back and tell the tale,

"is a country very farre northward. The land is wonderfull mountainous, the mountaines all the year long full of yce and snow : the plaines in part bare in summer. There growes neither tree nor hearbe in it, except scurvy grasse and sorrell. The sea is as barren as the land, affording no fish but whales, sea-horses, seals, and another small fish. And hither there is a yearly fleet of English sent."

This description may not be particularly accurate as to its scientific details, but it sufficiently expresses the popular ideas regarding the country then and for long afterwards; so that when bluff Tom Bowling, master mariner, swore that Sqniere Random's chaplain had, if he "came up with him," better "be in Greenland—that's all," he only expressed the vague general belief which in the minds of the men of his day attached to this frozen triangle of ice and snow which has so long depended from the upper ends of our maps of the Northern hemisphere. The western shores of Greenland have been long settled and explored by the Danes up to lat. 73°, while the coast line north of this parallel is partially known to us from the expeditions of Inglefield, Kane, Hayes, and Hall. The ice-covered interior is still a blank, while the east coast was until recently almost equally so. Scoresby burst in a favourable season through the icy stream which is continually pouring down its shores from Spitzbergen, and rudely mapped out part of the coast; while Graah crept in search of the lost Icelandic colonies a little way up from Cape Farewell. Still chartographers had an easy task in pourtraying East Greenland: a dotted line expressed the mass of our knowledge regarding the greater part of this mysterious region. To win laurels in the exploration of this coast, and also to use it as a basis of operations for penetrating northwards towards the Pole were the purposes of an expedition despatched by the Bremen Polar Society, aided by subscriptions from

most of the North German towns (though almost entirely at the instigation of Dr. Petermann), under the command of Karl Koldewey, who had already shown himself an apt seaman in an expedition of a preliminary character which he had commanded in the Spitzbergen seas in the previous summer. The expedition consisted of two ships—the *Germania*, a steamer under the command of Koldewey; and the *Hansa*, a small sailing ship under Hegemann, both vessels being accompanied by a very complete staff of scientific men. The *Kaiser*—he was only King of Prussia then—saw them off from Bremen, and amid the cheers of thousands the vessels sailed out of the Weser on June 15, 1869. Life on board a ship is rather dreary. Accordingly, in the early weeks of the Expedition there is little to record: the cabin life, the amusing disputes between the smokers and non-smokers regarding the hours in which the cabin was to be occupied for *räuchern*—the sea-sickness experienced by nearly all, especially those from the interior of Germany who had never even smelt salt water until then—the fish-trafficking transactions with heavy-sterned Dutchmen on the Dogger Bank—the naturalists' notes—the boisterous fun in shaving the neophytes as the vessel crossed the Arctic circle—are about the only incidents worth recording, until in lat. 74° 47', long. 11° 50' W., the expedition sights the first ice.

Now their labours and their troubles commence in earnest. Hitherto the vessels have been in company. Towards the end of August they get among great fields of ice, through which the vessels had to be tracked when steam was not available; and on August 27, while in sight of Little Pendulum Island, the vessels, though only thirty-five miles from each other, get separated in a thick fog. They never saw each other again. The *Hansa*, inextricably enclosed in the great ice-field, out of which, unaided by steam, it was soon seen to be a hopeless task to free her, then began to meet her untoward fate. While the vessel was embedded in the ice, and every moment threatened with the fatal "nip," the crew made the best of a bad job, and amused themselves with seal hunting, celebrating the captain's birthday, the nightly whist, skating, a little science, and a great deal of white-bear hunting, the visits of the Arctic foxes, which "with tails high in the air, shot over the ice fields like small craft sailing before the wind," and so on. Meantime the bricks of patent fuel were taken out of the vessel, and a roomy house built on the ice field into which provisions were stored against the contingency of the vessel going down. The prudence of this course was soon apparent. On the night of September 21, in lat. 70° 52', twenty-four miles from the Greenland coast, which could be dimly seen now and then, though no way could be found through the icy labyrinth, the ill-fated *Hansa* went down. Her crew now found themselves, with the stern Arctic winter approaching, alone on an ice-floe slowly drifting south. Their only hope was of attracting the attention of some of the Eskimo who might possibly be on the coast, for the moving ice-field prohibited the hope they had once entertained of being

able, by means of their boats, to reach the coast of Iceland. Their floating territory was about seven miles in circumference, by about two in diameter. It was not an extensive promenade, nor a very safe one; but with stolid German patience they began to content themselves with their lot. "We are the Lord's passengers," was their pious conclusion, and confident in this they prepared for the worst, while hoping against hope for the best. The bear and walrus hunting supplied some amusement. Once willow-like leaves blew to them off the land they could never reach, and an Arctic fox, which they had not the heart to kill, paid them a visit from the same wished-for, but unapproachable region. Still slowly but surely the current was carrying them southward: they were in the midst of that Spitzbergen ice-stream which carries the ice on to the East Greenland coast, and brings bears and drift-wood to the Danish settlements on the south-western shores. On December 4 they passed the mouth of Scoresby's Sound. The temperature was still high, though variable. On December 18, in lat. 67° 30', they experienced the lowest temperature they ever encountered, viz., -20° Fahr. Christmas still finds them on the ice-field, which they celebrate as best they can, and make merry round a Christmas-tree of pine wood and birch broom. It was but a sorry Christmas—the last most of them expected they would ever celebrate. In twelve days, from December 27 to January 8, they drifted 52½ nautical miles S.W. to W. 4 W. A new danger now threatened them. Numerous bergs were ever and again impinging against the floe and threatening to break it up; and several times, in dire fear of their icy territory being destroyed, they bivouacked in their boats to await the worst. In all their discomforts, want, hardship and danger of all kinds, the men kept up a cheerful frame of mind; and the cook, who was now an important functionary, seems to have troubled himself very little so long as he could get his tobacco. Once when the ice-field was threatening to divide in two, the only remark this Arctic *chef* made was: "If the floe would only hold together until he had finished his kettle! he wished so to make the evening tea in it, so that before our departure we might have something warm!" Between January 8 and 12 they drifted southward fifty-six miles. Washing is a luxury now only indulged in twice a week, and the scientific men, with the fortitude of philosophers, entirely abandon this unnecessary superfluity. Weeks have elapsed since the clothes have been off their backs, and hair and beard have not been trimmed for weeks. Their only hope now was of reaching the Danish settlements in South Greenland.

Towards the end of January cheering signs of life began to appear. A hawk and a raven—the almost solitary representatives of winter Arctic bird-life—flew overhead; seals appeared on the floe; then there came more ravens; a fox visited them; linnets and snow-buntings perched on their house, and were so tame that they would in five minutes allow themselves to be caught three times running. They must now be nearing the land.

They become careless. The most costly books are torn up for the most trifling purposes. The gilded frame of the cabin looking-glass is used as firewood, and the glass thrown on one side. "Streams of petroleum and brandy flow in the course of heating the stove; packets of tobacco furnish a welcome means of warmth. Why is gunpowder of no use to us? We like letting it off in fireworks for our pleasure, and to pass away the time!" Hitherto they have all been in good health with the exception of one of the men being seized with a slight attack of scurvy. But now a gloom comes over the devoted members of the forlorn hope. One of the most resolute of the officers becomes mentally affected, and their labours are increased by the care which must be taken of him. In February the sun is seventeen degrees above the meridian: furs are tossed off: it seems almost like summer. On April 17 the festival of Easter is celebrated as they lie tossing backwards and forwards in the Bay of Nukarbik. "To us," they write, "it was a real Resurrection festival." Gradually their floe had been decreasing until it was assuming proportions so limited that their house was getting alarmingly close to the water's edge. On February 7, open water was sighted in lat. $61^{\circ} 12'$, and it was resolved to take to the boats. Feverishly they load them, and almost sadly—with the sadness with which Thackeray says a well-constituted convict should leave Van Diemen's Land—they left the faithful ice-craft which had borne them for 200 days more than 600 miles into more hospitable latitudes. Snow-blindness added to their discomfort. A storm of snow forced them again to take refuge on the ice; but at last, after being twenty-one days in their boats, they succeeded, after dragging them only 2,000 paces in thirteen hours, in landing on the dreary island of Illuidlek—

" . . . an island salt and bare,
The haunt of orcs, and seals, and sea-mews' clang." They afterwards discovered that the Eskimo who inhabited the coast hard by had seen them on the ice, but scared at such an unexpected sight had in terror concealed themselves.

How they slowly coasted along, and finally landed at the Moravian mission station of Frederiksthal, we will allow our readers to ascertain from the narrative itself. The latter part of the voyage was exciting enough, but the dangers connected with it were small in proportion to what had preceded it. Here finished a voyage with which there is none in the annals of Arctic enterprise to compare. Ross's escape from Barrow's Strait, Kane's from Smith Sound, or even the heroic tale of Barentz as told by Gerrit van Veer, pales before it. It will live in the annals of heroism as an everlasting honour to the German name. They occupied themselves with excursions around the Danish settlements until the Danish vessel sailed for Copenhagen. The narrative of these, though interesting, is of comparatively little value, as we have much fuller accounts of the same district in the works of Rink and other writers. They seem to have been rather coldly received by the Danish trading officials, who had long memories for the Slesvig-Holstein wars. But with

these squabbles and recriminations we have nothing to do. Foolish men are found all the world over, and are not wanting even in South Greenland. On September 1 the whole crew were landed in Copenhagen—well, but ragged and weather-beaten, as the writer of these lines can testify.

The *Germania* got separated from the *Hansa* on August 4. Its proceedings, though greatly more valuable for science, were yet of a much less exciting character. Our space will only admit of a very brief summary. On August 5 it reached Sabine Island, one of the Pendulum group, but, after surveying the island, could discover no traces of Sabine's observatory. On the 13th they were stopped on their northern voyage by a barrier of ice in lat. $75^{\circ} 31'$, and returned. The remainder of the month of August was spent in scientific work, and part of September by Koldewey and Payer in an exploration of Fligely Fjord, during which coal was discovered on Kuhn Island. The musk ox, hitherto unknown on the east coast, and but doubtfully at all in Greenland, was found in plenty. Another sledge excursion in October and November proved the insularity of Clavering Island. On November 5 the sun disappeared, but still they accomplished 180 miles in nine days, and discovered a new fjord. From October 12 to the beginning of May the *Germania* was frozen in. The winter was passed in scientific work, a newspaper was established, amusements of all sorts were indulged in, and Christmas was celebrated with great pomp and dancing on the ice under the stars. Their winter quarters were in lat. $74^{\circ} 32' 16''$ N., long. $18^{\circ} 49'$ W. During the winter also a sledge journey was taken by the captain, Payer, and six seamen to the north, for 150 miles, adding one whole degree to our maps, terminating in a grim cape named after one Otto von Bismarck. Part of an arc of the meridian was measured by Copeland* and Börgen. On July 11 the ship was freed, and on the 22nd sailed northward, but was stopped by the ice in lat. $75^{\circ} 29'$. They now determined to try their fortunes to the south. They soon discovered that the "Mackenzie Inlet" of Scoresby did not exist, and that "Bennet Island" was only a hilly promontory. Sixteen new islands were discovered, and the great Franz Joseph's Fjord, stretching with numerous ramifications into Greenland, was explored and mapped. Petermann's Peak on its shores is 13,000 feet in height, while Mount Payer is 7,200 feet. It is especially noted that no traces of a complete glaciation of the interior were visible. The expedition did not penetrate sufficiently far from the shores to ascertain this. On the shores of West Greenland, unless the traveller passes over the intervening land skirting the shores, no trace of the "inland ice" can be seen. And as no moraine comes over the "inland ice," the probabilities are that no mountains or land intervene in the way (see "Das Innere des Grönlands," Petermann's *Geographische Mittheilungen*, October, 1871). On August 17 the expedition left the coast, and on September 11, 1870, reached Bremen, to find the "Vaterland" in the

* An Englishman, assistant in the Göttingen observatory, but now Lord Ross's astronomer at Parsonstown.

midst of war. The results of the expedition may be stated to be: 1. The non-existence of uninterrupted open water along the East Greenland coast. 2. East Greenland not a suitable basis of operations for reaching the Pole. 3. Re-survey of part of the coast, discovery of new fjords, &c., and various researches in physical science and natural history. Many traces of the Eskimo were seen, but none of recent date, and no aborigines themselves. 4. The necessity of having the coast as a basis of operations for advancing into the ice. Lastly, that Smith's Sound is after all the best route for a voyage of polar exploration.

One word as to the work itself from which we have drawn this outline. It is only an abridgment of the much more voluminous German narrative, without the valuable natural history and general scientific appendix. Nor is this to be deplored. The few who are specially interested in the work of the expedition can readily refer to the original work, while the heaviness and *minutiae* of detail would effectually deter readers in any other country than Germany from its perusal. Most of the original illustrations, one new one (after Rink, p. 177), a few of the chromolithographs, and two of the maps, appear in the present abridgment. The translator seems to have accomplished his task well, and a comparison of this work with the original edition shows that he has performed the delicate work of abridgment with much judgment. The name of the learned and accomplished editor is a guarantee that his portion of the task would be performed with grace and tact. Nor are we disappointed. Still, here and there we are led to wish that some one practically acquainted with the Arctic regions had read the sheets over, as slips for which the translator could hardly, under the circumstances, be held responsible, would not then have appeared. For instance, at p. 263, the translator adds a note: "Kaniken appears to be a Polish word for some description of fur." It is, of course, the familiar Greenland word for Eskimo boots. Again, what kind of "stickleback" is *Calanus hyperboreus*? One or two Teutonisms, such as "machinist" for "engineer," &c., protrude here and there. However, these are trifles, and in no way detract from the general value of a work which is destined to be extensively read, and to stimulate greatly the interest in Arctic exploration, now again to be resumed in England after the long night of slumber during which other nations have been reaping, under many disadvantages, the glory which ought to have been ours by birthright.

ROBERT BROWN.

The Old Régime in Canada. By Francis Parkman. (Boston: Little, Brown, & Co.; London: Sampson Low & Co., 1874.)

THIS volume is one of "A Series of Historical Narratives," by the same author, under the general title of *France and England in America*, and is Part IV. of the series. To a certain extent the volume is complete in itself, as it deals with a distinct period of the history of Canada during its occupation by the French; but some knowledge of the contents of the former ones is

necessary in order to comprehend fully all its references and allusions. As a rule, an author, as well as his readers, labours under more or less difficulty when he produces his work in this piecemeal fashion, because he generally writes his later volume with a better knowledge of the facts with which he dealt in his first, and cannot now alter his treatment of them, however much he may desire to do so.

Mr. Parkman furnishes, perhaps, an exception to this rule, for there is a continuity about the general narrative contained in his four volumes, and a perfect cohesion of the details, which are truly remarkable, and are the more worthy of notice because (a fact perhaps not generally known) he suffers from the same physical disability under which his predecessor, Mr. Prescott, so long and so successfully laboured. When other historians, and notably one of his own countrymen, with no defect in their vision, blunder perpetually over the old records which they consult, and from which they profess to derive inspiration, it is highly creditable to Mr. Parkman that, dependent as he must necessarily be upon the assistance of others in the examination of his original material, he is rarely, if ever, caught tripping.

These volumes are the result of a determination on the part of the author in his early youth, and that he has not given them to the world in undue haste is proved by the fact that the issue of the present volume finds him in his fifty-first year. The amount of patient research which they have involved, and the care which he has bestowed upon the new material which his enthusiasm and perseverance have brought to light, show that he has been actuated by better motives than a desire for temporary popularity.

Still, his work must not be regarded as exhaustive of the subject to which it is devoted. That is of a character too important and extensive to be dealt with finally in what the author himself modestly describes as only "a series of historical narratives." It is simply impossible that a volume of 400 octavo pages, like the one before us, treating of a period extending from 1640 to 1763, can embrace a tithe of the historical details of that century and a quarter which ought to be preserved. The exact student of history will hardly be content with the rapid and condensed narration of actions and events of the gravest importance, sometimes within the space of a single page; but even he will be forced to admit that Mr. Parkman has left no important point entirely untouched, and that his narrative, rapid and condensed as it is, shows that he has thoroughly grasped the whole subject. In a word, he has so carefully and artistically outlined the entire history of the period with which he deals, that his successors will find their labours greatly lightened, and will have little to do but to elaborate his masterly sketches.

Hitherto our knowledge of the history of the French settlement and occupation of Canada has been derived chiefly from French sources, and, however we may have been disposed to question the impartiality of the French historians, it has been difficult to contradict their statements or refute their

conclusions, from the mere want of positive data upon which we could rely. Perhaps the most popular work on the subject has been the *History and General Description of New France*, by the Rev. P. F. X. de Charlevoix, S.J., a translation of which, in six volumes, by John Gilmary Shea, with his copious annotations, has been recently published in New York. It is to this work Mr. Parkman candidly refers his readers, if they desire to see the subject from a point of view opposite to his own. From this it may correctly be judged that Mr. Parkman differs, both in his facts and conclusions, not only from the secular French historians, but also from the Jesuit writers, who, it may be supposed, have always made the very best of their case. Mr. Parkman's fairness and anxiety to do justice may be seen from the fact that he takes the position of an umpire between the two classes of writers, and that, while he condemns the Jesuits for colouring their statements too highly, he also rebukes the seculars for attributing to the Jesuits, during their control of Canada, certain conduct too scandalous for ready belief, and some of which he himself abundantly disproves. For every fact which he states he gives the appropriate and, when possible, the exact reference; and when it is stated that the greatest portion of the documents consulted and referred to are to be found in the archives of the Marine and Colonies at Paris, we may have no hesitation in according to them the same confidence with which we regard similar documents in our own Public Record Office. These facts, thus substantiated, Mr. Parkman sets forth, in rapid succession and unbroken continuity, in an easy and straightforward narrative, without any attempt at startling effect or dramatic display, and they inevitably suggest the conclusions at which it is evident that he has himself arrived, though he does not always directly indicate them to the reader.

The story—for it is a story, and an interesting one from beginning to end—of the operations of the Jesuits is told in a vivid and animated style, and carries conviction with it, line by line, and paragraph by paragraph. We see among other things how, under the guise of a missionary enterprise, the Jesuits obtained undisputed control of the Canadian territory, and how they used and abused the power they acquired. We see a few of the Jesuit fathers conscientiously endeavouring to carry out the principles they professed in efforts to civilise and Christianise the native Indians, and behold their pious labours brought to nought by the machinations of others, often their superiors, not so conscientious, who for the sake of worldly gain introduced to the savages what has ever been their fatal curse—brandy, or, in their nomenclature, "fire-water"—under the effects of which they became the mere tools and victims of the French traders. Mr. Parkman has established conclusively the charge, always denied, that the Jesuits traded extensively in furs, even from the very beginning of the colony; and that the King of France, whose Canadian revenue was drawn from this trade, encouraged, rather than otherwise, the employment of brandy in dealing with the natives, in spite of the contrary decision of the fathers of the Sor-

bonne, Père la Chaise, and the Archbishop of Paris, all of whom he had consulted, and who had pronounced it a mortal sin. Indeed, he even wrote to the Bishop of Quebec that "the brandy trade was very useful to the kingdom," and that "the consciences of his subjects must not be disturbed by denunciations of it as a sin."

Not the least interesting portions of Mr. Parkman's book are the occasional glimpses he affords us of social life in Canada during the Old Régime, and it is well to contrast the manners and customs of the French Canadians of this period with those of the colonists of New England.

Mr. Parkman very effectively traces the steady decadence of the one colony while the other was as steadily increasing in importance, and brings his history down to the date of the English Conquest, the details of which are reserved for a future volume. Surveying the then wretched condition of the people, and the hopelessness of any improvement under French rule, his closing words may also appropriately close this brief notice of his admirable book, viz.: "A happier calamity never befell a people than the conquest of Canada by the British arms."

JOSEPH LEMUEL CHESTER.

On Compromise. By John Morley. (London: Chapman & Hall, 1874.)

THE word compromise, as commonly used, has two sets of associations, one with the idea of practical expediency, the other with that of dishonest concession. Mr. Morley's essay will perhaps contribute to fix usage to the latter sense, since he writes throughout as if the compromises which men most often make, or are tempted to make, were always between right and wrong, true and false, or, at the most complicated point, between right doing and wrong believing. An innocent compromise consists simply in "splitting the difference" between two alternatives: a process that seems to demand that the alternatives shall be of the same kind, and the sacrifice one of quantity or degree. Such a compromise as the sacrifice of conviction to convenience is at once felt to be immoral, because, properly speaking, it is not a compromise at all; there can be no equivalence of concession between things essentially different and incommensurable. If A firmly believes a given act to be right, and does not do it because B firmly believes it to be wrong, he does not compromise, he yields to the uncompromising strength of principle in B. The real sphere of compromise in such bargains is upon the question of time, the one thing in which the opponents have a common and equal interest. Both parties suppose (what of course is only approximately true), that their several opinions will continue unchanged whether they act upon them or not, and if A consents not to act at once, it is in order to give B time to come over to his view as to the desirableness of acting; thus, while B continues to resist merely on the merits of the case, A concedes something which is non-essential, i.e. the precise date of the reform. Neither Mr. Morley, nor the general conscience of mankind, sees any harm in this last form of compromise; but

the mere statement of the case helps to explain why the morality of compromise is a question of special interest to the Liberal party. Progress may be for the worse or better, anyway time is the natural ally of its partisans, and for that very reason, the only kind of compromise which it is in their power innocently to offer would be rejected as illusory by a strict and intelligent conservatism. Mr. Morley is quite aware that the laxity of principle with which he reproaches his own side is at least as marked a feature of his opponents; but, unlike some other ardent believers, he claims the whole army of waverers as tacitly pledged to conversion. If any opponent has the amiable weakness to concede that he *may* be right, Mr. Morley suspects him of moral and intellectual cowardice or compromise if he does not diligently and forthwith proceed to discover and act on the discovery that he *is* right; whereas in many cases the inconsistency, and such immorality as there may be in invincible puzzle-headedness, would lie in the original concession, not in the failure to follow it up to all its logical consequences.

The discussion follows two lines, as the author deals with present facts or general principles. The weak points of the argument are where the one is brought to bear upon the other. It is universally agreed that men ought to act conscientiously according to their lights; and though, in the face of irresistible reasoning, it is still sometimes denied, almost every one agrees that neither do men gather grapes of thorns, nor right acts from base motives and erroneous beliefs. But if, as a fact, clear ideas about the right and true and a noble enthusiasm for ends recognised as such, are, unfortunately, rare or wanting amongst the present generation, we are not sure that want of honesty or courage is the prime defect, rather than simple ignorance and feebleness of will. Mr. Morley refers to the zeal for truth of the French philosophers of the eighteenth century. But though Voltaire and Diderot had strong opinions, it by no means follows that they owed them to their strong sense of the duty of having opinions; their desire to reach a state of intelligent certainty on all points of interest was but one passion among many, and perhaps the least primary of all. Devotion to abstract Truth is a generalisation from devotion to a variety of particular truths; and if none of the truths accepted at a given date naturally inspire the enthusiasm of believers, the fault may be, not indeed in the truths, which are good as far as they go, but still in the intellectual rather than in the emotional apparatus of the believer, whose enthusiasm may be only held in suspense till the dawn of larger and more stimulating convictions. All that Mr. Morley says of "intellectual responsibility" will be admitted by those whom it does not concern, but it supplies no remedy for his real grievance, which is the impossibility of inspiring men who do not exactly know or particularly care what they think about Darwin or the Deluge with a holy enthusiasm for disestablishing the Church of England, or removing the last faint traces of a social penalty on unbelief.

La Rochefoucauld says, "Si nous résistons à nos passions, c'est plutôt par leur faiblesse

que par notre force," and the remark is at least equally applicable to convictions. Half-grown opinions vegetate passively, and wait for each other to give, what they do not attain singly, the consciousness of their own existence. The rudimentary enlightenment of most Englishmen is scarcely sufficient to terrify them into hypocrisy; they continue from habit to contrast the brilliant and the safe, but the mass of good sober citizens never yet made the mistake of thinking their own unfeigned convictions dangerously advanced, and the politic reluctance to carry out half-accepted principles to their legitimate practical conclusions, which Mr. Morley thinks our worst national sin, may be accounted for by the fact that the principles he has in his mind are only half accepted, as well as by the taste for compromise developed by the historical antecedents of the country. The same excuse might be urged, though less successfully, on behalf of the class which holds and professes fixed opinions which it hesitates, nevertheless, to act upon, the persons who believe, if not in the "possible utility of error," at any rate, in the possible harmfulness of truth. For the most part, those who speak of an opinion as probably true, but practically dangerous, mean that they do not see their way either to applying it beneficially themselves, or to persuading other persons so to apply it; but political principles which have a direct reference to practice have also natural corollaries regulating their application, and the conviction is not insincere but incomplete which fails at the moment to include assent to the latter. The intellectual difficulty of thinking quite rightly is simply doubled when the point at issue is practical, and we have to decide not only what is true, but what we shall do with our knowledge of it; and the prevalence of this kind of indecision, though undoubtedly a political misfortune, is not necessarily a sign of moral degradation. Parts of the present essay may be read as a sighing confession that it is growing very hard to be a consistent Liberal, and perhaps it is in this very sense of the difficulty of the incumbent task that the unstrung nerves of the party will be braced to stronger efforts and more glorious aspiration. It would take a hero of no mean order to satisfy the present demand for statesmen who would be at once ready and confident in action, and yet tolerant and sympathetic towards the forces which they were bent on overruling. After all, no extenuating circumstances can affect the truth, or *à propos* of Mr. Morley's main thesis, that ignorance and timidity serve chiefly to strengthen each other's hands for the enterprise of leaving ill alone.

In form the essay naturally recalls Mr. Mill on Liberty, which it is partly meant to supplement in substance; but not to mention other differences, it is less argumentative and more distinctly a *pièce d'occasion*. On one point at least it may be suspected that the author exaggerates the evils which he very justly and eloquently denounces. There are so many men untroubled by religious doubt, who do not have family prayers, who attend church with extreme irregularity, and neglect the sacraments, that the scrupulous conformity which he attributes to considerable numbers of confirmed un-

believers, would be, to take no higher ground, a gratuitous hypocrisy, and as such not likely to be practised on a large scale in any society, however Laodicean in its principles. It is impossible to suspect Mr. Morley of intentional economy; but the politician probably had more than the philosopher to do with the attempt in his preface to distinguish between the moral position of the State Church and other religious sects, the older and more important of which are scarcely less firmly "established" by the inheritance of circumstances in grooves no longer parallel to the spiritual needs of the time. All religious sects have formulas of doctrine which the clergy teach and the laity hear, and in an age of faith the endowment of the teachers is a means of securing, not of restricting, their independence. In the present "time of loud disputes and weak convictions," no opinion has a claim to be endowed as that of the community, but the disendowment of the Established Church would go a very little way towards disposing the clergy of that and other denominations to aid "in the long, difficult, and plainly inevitable work of transforming opinion." The moral earnestness which inspires the positive side of the present work will have more influence in that desired direction than even its justest criticisms. EDITH SIMCOX.

The Times are Changing. [Tiderne Skifte.]
Skuespil i 3 Akter af Frederik Paludan-Müller. (Copenhagen.)

Adonis. Et mytisk Digt af Frederik Paludan-Müller. (Copenhagen.)

SINCE Paludan-Müller called us in 1862 to listen to the seraphic melodies of his *Paradiset*, the greatest living poet of Denmark has preserved a silence only broken by his prose romance of *Ivar Lykkes Historie*. Interesting as the latter work is in various ways, it has none of the characteristics of harmony and sculpturesque form for which one especially values this writer's lyrical poetry. But now, after so many years of retirement, the poet comes forward again, and he brings a new book in each hand—a prose comedy in the one, and an epic myth in the other. It is truly agreeable to welcome him again, and to find in the work of his sixty-fifth year as much freshness, though perhaps not so much force, as in that of the younger days when he raised the temple of Danish literature a whole storey higher with *Kalanus* and with *Adam Homo*.

Tiderne Skifte ("The Times are Changing") has just been brought out on the boards of the New Danish National Theatre in Copenhagen, and with signal success. No wonder! It is in all respects exactly adapted for the peculiar tastes of the audience, and the peculiar training of the actors that it finds there. The tradition of the Copenhagen comedy, shifting in the third act to some green nook in the woods, *ud i Skoven*, is kept up with a fidelity worthy of Heiberg, and the sentiments, dialogue, and situations have all the old innocence and liveliness and essential Danishness.

The scene is laid in Frederick V.'s time, that is, about 1755. A great nobleman, Count Pless, has two children, Otto and Anna. Otto has fallen in love with an

actress, Miss Bird, whom he has seen act Dido at Baron Holberg's new theatre in Copenhagen. Anna has fallen in love with Dr. Lind, a young physician who has been her father's house-doctor, and who once saved her life. Count Pless will not listen to these suits, sends Otto to travel on the Continent, and locks Anna up. When the curtain rises, Otto has just come back to Denmark after two years' absence, during all which time he has been travelling with Dr. Lind, the two friends keeping watch over one another's constancy. The first act represents the stolen meeting of the two pairs of lovers. Miss Bird, who is an excellent little creature, has spent all her spare time in the cultivation of her mind, her only sorrow now being that Count Otto does not much care for books. She has written to Otto's father, but in vain. Dr. Lind, meanwhile, has imbibed the ideas of Rousseau, and exhorts the other three to appear without powder and the other unnatural articles of dress then in vogue. They make a solemn pact so to do, and to appear before Count and Countess Pless so unadorned, and to try once more to soften the father's heart.

The father's spy, however, has overheard all this, and we find Count Pless, in the second act, determined to hold out to the last. In an interview with Dr., now Professor Lind, he loses all temper, and when the Countess also comes over to the young people's party, he is at his wits' end, and meeting the famous minister of state, Bernstorff, he begs him to judge between his family and himself. Bernstorff agrees to be judge, but declares that he must consider the matter, and invites Count Pless to share his carriage next day, when he is about to drive out to the country palace of Fredensborg to see the King. Meanwhile little Miss Bird (Jomfru Fugl) is possessed with an idea. In vain her fellow-conspirators beg her to share it with them. All she will say is, they must hire a carriage and drive off together, they four, early next morning, to Fredensborg.

The third act opens in the palace-gardens, where Miss Bird discloses to her friends that her grand idea is to stop the King as he passes, and beg him to help them. The others are extremely startled at the notion, but her enthusiasm overrules their objections, and they go and hide while she awaits the King. Presently Frederick V., in the best of spirits, and accompanied by Bernstorff, makes his appearance. The beauty and distress of the girl charm and move him. He encourages and comforts her, and at last she tells him her petition. He is good-humoured enough to propose to become umpire between the father and the children, and he tells her to wait where she is for half-an-hour, and he will return. Count Pless comes by, and finds Miss Bird, who knows him though he does not know her, and she wheedles him into great sympathy with the injustice that is being done her by a supposed father of the middle classes, whose ridiculous pride the aristocrat is very severe upon. He goes away; Miss Bird summons her three friends, who are hardly marshalled before the good-natured King reappears and summons Count Pless. The latter is enraged to find himself so gulled,

but cannot refuse to let the King be umpire. The King then, with great formality, decides first against the young people, who are to give up their Rousseauish doctrines, and return to the use of powder; and secondly, against the father, who is to consent to the marriages; thirdly, to remove the objections of low rank, he gives Miss Bird a place at court, and makes Dr. Lind his private physician. Finally, he invites the whole party to dine with him that evening without ceremony. So the curtain falls.

It will be seen that the plot is very slight, but the working out is charming and fresh, and there are many points that must make it a good acting play. The title *Times Change* takes its idea from Count Pless's determination not to alter with altering times and fashions. The drama is wholly in prose.

Adonis differs from *Tiderne Skifte* as much as a sonnet of Shakspere's differs from the *Comedy of Errors*. It is a short poem of less than fifty stanzas in the manner of the early mythological studies in which Paludan-Müller developed his poetic individuality in its purest and loveliest form. It belongs to the same class of his writings as *Tithon* and *Amor og Psyche*, though it is much slighter and more direct than these. Charon is represented as just setting his sail to catch the weak wind that blows along the Styx, when he hears a voice cry to him from the landing-place; and before he has time to turn, a beautiful youth has leaped into his boat. The thin ghosts shudder together at the unwelcome coming of one so full of life. Charon inquires his name, and learns that it is Adonis, who, snatched away from men by Aphrodite, has found that good fortune at last a burden, whose heart has remained unsatisfied among all the Paphian roses, and who now has escaped from her, and goes to lay his devotion and his desire at the feet of Persephone, flying from pleasure that he may find rest. "For I must always love, and always love a goddess; that was my destiny, and I have followed it all my life. Venus and Proserpine were near when I was born, and before I began to breathe two goddesses were contesting to possess me." Aphrodite has held his manhood first; now, weary with a love so exciting and so exhausting, he turns with irrepressible longing to the goddess, crowned with calm leaves, in whose hushed dominions there are no budding and no falling flowers. The boat of Charon passes in silence down the dark channel, roofed in with rocks, described by the poet in words that recall Mr. Stanhope's wonderful picture of this year. Arrived at the harbour of death, a shade summons the coming shades to the banquet of Pluto. Adonis sees them disappear, as he stands alone upon the desolate margin of the stream. Presently a dead-pale maiden comes, bearing a torch, and cries: "Charon, is he come?" This girl Persephone sends daily to enquire if Adonis has arrived. At last, after so many years, the answer is yes! She binds his eyes, and leads him through the realms of death, down into the hall of the infernal gods, where, when his eyes are unbound, he sees Persephone sitting on her throne in silence and solitude. A tinge of red flies to her white cheeks, she opens her

majestic arms, and breathes his name; with an outburst of passionate love he throws himself at her feet, and tells her how even in the arms of Aphrodite he has loved her, and now has flown to her to experience with her keener and deeper pleasures than the earthly goddess could give him. But Persephone repels his caresses, and warns him that she has no love to give him that can be likened with the love of passion; if he seeks for that he is deceived, but she also loves him, and she has better gifts for whom she loves. While the beautiful Adonis still clasps her knees with his hands, she bids a maiden fill a beaker with the waters of Lethe. He drinks the divine nepenthe, and has only just time to respond to the kiss the goddess presses on his mouth before he sinks at her feet in slumber, and lays his weary head upon her knee. So through the ages these two remain unmoving: Adonis in a happy dream, forgetful of all past passions and desires; Persephone bending over him with a grave smile, pleased with her final victory over her earthly rival. The open heavens are over them, and time is only marked by the waxing and waning of the moon.

Short as it is, this poem is a masterpiece of melody and dignity, and we welcome it with delight as a sign that the master-hand of Frederik Paludan-Müller has not yet begun to tremble or to fail.

EDMUND W. GOSSE.

EPOCHS OF HISTORY.*

II.

(3) *The Thirty Years' War*. By S. R. Gardiner.

It is a constant boast in Germany that historical research and historical writing is not there restricted to the history of Germany itself, but embraces most European countries as well, and has produced important works relating to the history of France, England, Italy, &c. And yet Mr. Gardiner, in his *History of the Thirty Years' War*, presents us with a work which ought pre-eminently to have been the task of a German historian—a task which no German has yet accomplished. Germans, it is true, have not been wanting in searching and profound investigations into the causes, the course—at least in some of its periods—and the prominent episodes of the "Thirty Years' War;" but no one has taken the pains to lay the results of so many and such severe studies in a concise and compendious form before that part of the public which is desirous of knowledge. So far as we are aware, there have in recent times appeared only two concise works in German embracing the whole period of the Thirty Years' War; the one, by Sporschil, was composed thirty or forty years ago, and therefore necessarily takes no cognizance of late researches; the other was published last year, nominally as a second edition, by Keym, who, on account of his Ultramontane tendencies, ignores the results of recent investigation.

If a brief narrative of the Thirty Years' War is to have any value in our days, it

* Edited by E. E. Morris. (London: Longmans & Co., 1874.)

must be the work of one who has taken part in the scientific study of the war itself, or at least of the period in which it took place, and who through his own labours has his understanding open to the many controversial questions which arise. In this respect Mr. Gardiner is eminently qualified for the task; his extensive researches among archives which he has set down and worked out in several books, have enabled him to reach a stand-point whence it is possible to survey the infinite perplexity of the story of the Thirty Years' War, the opposing claims of parties, and the contradictory statements of individual historians.

On a closer examination of the details of Mr. Gardiner's views and narrative, we remark that we fully agree with his explanation of the causes of the great and fatal war, as well as with his representation of its incidents until 1620. His description of the position taken by England during the period 1621-1624 is particularly lucid and to some extent new. During those years James I. sought by means of negotiations with Spain to alleviate the lot of his son-in-law, and although these negotiations were fruitless, they are nevertheless highly interesting on account of the mystery which environs them, and of the peculiar attitude assumed by Spain while they were on foot. When James perceived the fruitlessness of the negotiations with Spain, he desired to obtain by force what he had been unable to obtain in a peaceful way, and with this view entered into negotiations with Denmark and Sweden touching the conclusion of an alliance. The distinct pourtrayal of these negotiations, which have been hitherto little regarded in German works, and that of the contemporary position of France, are among the most instructive parts of the book.

Mr. Gardiner devotes special diligence to a minute and distinct characterisation of the three prominent men of the Thirty Years' War—Richelieu, Gustavus Adolphus, and Wallenstein.

A brilliant recognition is awarded to the statesmanlike abilities of Richelieu, while there is no word of blame for his hostility to the French Huguenots, which is considered to have been imperatively demanded by the interests of France. His skill and profound insight in the choice of allies, who were sometimes distasteful even to himself, but whose power and consequence he wished to make serviceable to France, are depicted with great acuteness and perspicuity, so that we cannot fail to acknowledge fully the justice of the contrast drawn between his sagacity and the French policy under Napoleon III.

On the other hand, it is with a certain cautious anxiety that Mr. Gardiner delineates, not indeed the character and abilities, but the plans and views of Gustavus Adolphus. The character and abilities of this king are open to the world; there can be no essential difference of opinion respecting either, on an impartial examination. But the matter stands differently if we attempt to pass sentence on the intentions of this eminent man, whose early death concealed his plans from the knowledge and judgment of the world. Mr. Gardiner thinks that the plan of Gustavus Adolphus was to unite the

Protestant states of North Germany into one confederation, of which he wished to assume the guidance and leadership. From this motive he explains the military tactics of this king after the battle of Breitenfeld, especially his determination to obtain a firm footing in Germany, instead of pushing on to Vienna, and his consequent resolve to march to the Rhine. It is difficult to advance anything decisive either for or against this conjecture of Mr. Gardiner; it only occurs to us that in a conference with the French ambassadors in 1631, Gustavus Adolphus asked them what would be said in France if he should proclaim himself King of Franconia, one of the German circles which was pre-eminently in the possession of Catholic ecclesiastical princes. This seems to indicate that, if he had the design of subjugating a part of Germany, he wished to be absolute master thereof, and not to assume so unsatisfactory and powerless a position as that of Protector of North Germany. On the other hand, it is certain that his ambition would hardly have been satisfied with so limited a possession as that of the diminutive Franconia, and that his question to the French ambassadors only indicated a part of his aspirations, and that consequently his real design was bent on the founding of the lordship over North Germany suggested by Mr. Gardiner. Mr. Gardiner does not overlook the difficulties which would have lain in the way of this design, owing to the insubordination of German princes and towns; and he remarks, with perfect justice, that it was the good fortune of Gustavus Adolphus to fall before he was ruined by these difficulties. "It may be, after all, he was happy in the opportunity of his death."

In his representation of Wallenstein Mr. Gardiner, as it seems to us, has surrendered himself to the influence of Ranke's writings; and he has not, therefore, the words of censure which we expected for the last period of Wallenstein's career. With fine tact he points out Wallenstein's *un-German* origin, and the consequences which this had upon the share which he took in the murderous strife; and we think the grounds are justly indicated on which Gustavus Adolphus, in 1630, refused to enter into the negotiations with Wallenstein which the latter so ardently desired. But what Mr. Gardiner relates concerning the career of Wallenstein after the death of Gustavus Adolphus, with regard to his desire to play the part of a kind of peacemaker, corresponds a good deal to the representation hitherto in vogue, especially that of Ranke; but it is not in harmony with the real facts, which have not yet been made public through the *press*. Wallenstein wished to play the traitor to his Emperor, and to that end commenced negotiations with France in 1633, in accordance with which Lewis XIII. was to bind himself, on the payment of certain subsidies, to support Wallenstein in his insurrection against the Emperor, and in the acquisition of Bohemia, which was the object of his desires. The Emperor and Spain were willing to pay a great price for Wallenstein's fidelity; he rejected their offers, however, for his ambition was bent on higher things. Spain had always taken Wallenstein's part

at the Imperial Court, both in 1630 at Regensburg, and in 1633 when suspicions were already entertained respecting him at Vienna; and Count Oñate was purposely sent, at the close of 1633, to Vienna in order to dissuade the Emperor from his distrust of Wallenstein, and to place the relations between both upon a friendly footing. With this charge and with this design Oñate set out on his journey to Vienna at the end of 1633, but immediately after his arrival he associated himself with the most vehement opponents of Wallenstein, because he was convinced of his guilt and intrigues. To some extent there are sufficient proofs in favour of our assertions in the publications of Helbig and Fiedler, and in the documents of Feuquière, printed in the seventeenth century. But in spite of all, Ranke saw in Wallenstein too idealised a nature to accuse him of a long previously concerted treachery for purely selfish interests, and thus also Mr. Gardiner's sentiment respecting the catastrophe of Wallenstein became more favourable to that Bohemian condottiere than he deserved. This difference between our view and that of Mr. Gardiner is no disparagement of the latter after the explanations we have given, since the catastrophe of Wallenstein is still under the consideration of those minor Austrian or Bohemian historians who alone, after all, are in a position to throw full light upon the subject.

In conclusion, we welcome in Mr. Gardiner's *History of the Thirty Years' War* a truly excellent work, and we wish that by means of a good translation it may become the common possession of the people among whom the great conflict raged.

A. GINDELY.

NEW NOVELS.

Mr. Smith: a Part of his Life. By L. B. Walford. In Two Volumes. (Edinburgh: William Blackwood & Sons, 1874.)
The Deceased Wife's Sister, and My Beautiful Neighbour. In Three Volumes. (London: Richard Bentley & Son, 1874.)
The Village Surgeon. By Arthur Locker. (London: Sampson Low & Co., 1874.)
Hope Meredith. By the Author of "St. Olave's," &c. In Three Volumes. (London: Hurst & Blackett, 1874.)

ADMITTING that a society for the repression of novels would be as ineffectual as a society for the repression of hydra's heads, and that novels are one of the evils brought in the train of an advanced civilisation, we would yet venture to suggest that means be adopted for cutting away the diseased excrescence of criticism which has grown so rapidly on the surface of a necessary institution, and would in a few lines submit to consideration a system for reconciling that variance of opinion which leaves no romance without a champion to declare it a masterpiece, for relieving that monotony of phrase which endows the shallowest story with psychological introspection, meditative analysis, and the like notable and high-sounding qualities, and for saving an expenditure of time and temper which is satisfactory neither to author, reader, nor critic. It is well known that in considering the merits of most modern works of fiction, the first object is to indicate

their class by reference to the standard author, or class of standard authors, from whom they are imitated or stolen, the second, to estimate the ingenuity of the imitation or theft: and that neither of these is at present effected by a uniform process. We would suggest that the class be shown by dividing the better sort of novelists into four battalions, arranged according to their fitness for imitation, and each having for peculiar sign a dash, a cross, a dagger, or an asterisk. The first and scantiest company would include those writers who stand at the ends of the long file from Petronius to Mr. Anthony Trollope, and who, as being too ancient or too modern, are generally held unsuitable for the purpose; in the second would be placed the subtlest master spirits of fiction, such as Goethe, Balzac, Hawthorne; in the third, those who burrow less deeply in the human heart, represented in England by Jane Austen and Thackeray, in France by the Abbé Prévost and George Sand; and in the fourth, the authors who bear upon their sleeve the secret of their literary success. Having affixed to the book under review the symbol of its class, the critic might then award marks to it on the ordinary system of examinations, and according to a fixed scale for observation, humour, fancy, style, and so forth; and though the difference between the awards of the gushing and of the cynical reviewer would be as large as before, yet the gush and cynicism would now be expressed in commensurable terms, and the numerical equivalent of common sense could speedily be calculated by an intelligent reader or advertised by an honest publisher. But as such innovations as this are necessarily things of an indefinite future, we must at present be content to proceed along the beaten track of criticism.

And it is agreeable at starting to light upon a book with so many claims to originality as *Mr. Smith*. In humorously describing homely scenes with painful minuteness, it resembles a picture by Dow or Van Ostade, but the style is a serious obstacle to the enjoyment of this minuteness, being simply a succession of barks. There is a Helen in the story—a fair Helen—Helen Tolleton, the beauty of Eastworld. And there is a sort of Paris. Paris is short, stout, grey. He has ten thousand a year. His name is Smith. People had sometimes called him Brown. It had hurt him. He would not himself have hurt the feelings of man, woman, or child. His name was not the only objectionable part of him. When his house at Eastworld was building, the butcher thought he would be a family. He had constructed rooms that meant roast beef. He had furnished rooms that meant saddles of mutton and sweetbread. And then came a single man. Plain John Smith. The book has no Oenone. But Carry Tolleton thought that fair Helen might leave the old fogies to her. And Lily Tolleton had an eye to the prize. The Tolleton girls were not respected at Eastworld. They had chattered and flirted, and men had encouraged and admired. They had grown reckless, and came to be talked about. That was their history. Mrs. Hunt, the doctor's wife, determined to oppose them. She formally consecrated her daughter

Maria to Mr. Smith. Maria Hunt was not captivating. She was a spotty-faced thing like a ferret. But Helen was soon left to conduct the siege alone. Needless to say that Mr. Smith was stricken with her charms in a middle-aged, helpless way. She then confessed a desperate flirtation of the past, and his idol for a moment shook. While it was staggering the siege was raised, for Helen lay ill at home dreaming of bygone conquests, of Lance and Buckley and Gordon and hosts of others besides poor Walter, who really cared more for her than the rest together; how some had her hair: some the flowers she had worn: some, her gloves: and one or two, even letters; and laughing when she recalled visions of doleful visages saying farewell over faultless neckties and unimpeachable shirt-fronts, of the pushing forward and hustling for her smiles, of the gloomy sighs breathed in the back-ground, the jealous looks, the little mean insinuations, the frown of the Colonel, the weak sneer of the subaltern. And when she had done dreaming Mr. Smith proposed. And when he had proposed he died.

The heroine of *The Deceased Wife's Sister* addresses herself to a select audience. Not for you, O marble-hearted woman smiling at her passion, does she write the narrative of her love for her sister's husband. But she envies your smiles. It is something, it is everything, in this world of blooming flowers and broken hearts to be born without instincts that grow mad in the light of love like man in the light of the moon. Give her your dispassionate nature. Give her your heart in which love can make no music, misery no madness. Give her the innocence of your immobility. She wants no joys, for joys fill the past with fallen rose-leaves, whose breath is full of the bitterness of death and the melancholy of decay. Those who get beyond this apostrophe will be introduced to the heroine in all her moods: whether scenting decay in the wind or watching the evening as it fills the air with a stillness which she can hear, and which seems to her a symbol of eternity: whether in her favourite character of a fairy-witch filled with tremulous sensibility, which emits a quaint music from her heart whenever it is smitten, or in that of an intellectual Aunt Sally: whether playing at chess with abstracted irrelevance, or declaring that defiance is her weapon, uncompromising, thirsty defiance. Strange creatures, too, are to be met by the wayside. There is a lady who bandolines down her hair with a scalp-like smoothness; a youth who is gifted with a *retroussé* whistle; a gentleman whose face takes a severity of beauty as he sings with his hand reposing on the back of his deceased wife's sister's neck, his gleaming eyes fixed on the deep sky, and his fingers trembling in sympathetic unison with the impassioned accents of his rich, deep chant. The sentiments of this book cannot fail to disgust. We are not disposed to waste hard words on a book which is possibly intended to prepare the way for a romance on the Contagious Diseases Act. But it is a feulent production.

My Beautiful Neighbour is by the same skilled hand, and shows the same love of nature, the same chaste imagination, the

same yearning for a spiritual life. The air was tart with a smell of salt and seaweed, athwart the moon passed the sombre shadow of a bat, the sea was singing her pauseless undersong, the beating of her mighty heart could be heard amid the purring of the breakers as they creamed beneath the moonlight on the porous beach: when a phantom with yellow hair and an alabaster neck came forth to woo the slumberous air, with looks like liberty incarnate, with freedom in her royal gestures, pliancy and power in her step, with an exquisite form undulating to her thoughts like the shadow of a dryad seen in a breezy pool. She appeared to a student whose life was a virgin blank, and bore no strange characters drawn by fate, no pierced heart, no weeping cupid, no stain of tear, no pensive profile disturbing its white purity; and she appeared to his Italian tutor who had translated Apollonius Rhodius and Coluthus Lycopolitas, and who shone by the borrowed light of letters rather than the luminous atmosphere of the imagination. She married the student and murdered the tutor. She was mad.

Matthew Allardyce, "The Village Surgeon," writes a diary which is only one degree less silly. He addresses it in the form of sententious remarks to an imaginary being called his Better Self, who acts pantaloon to Mr. Allardyce's clowning, and who, were he not too gentle a shade to protest against hard usage, might express himself in this strain: "My friend in motley. You offer three reasons for compiling a diary, a reason meteorological, a reason theological, and a reason chemical; but I could disclose a weightier reason to dissuade you therefrom, the reason intellectual that you are utterly incapable of writing it. The plea that you have invented a sympathetic ink is worthy, I acknowledge, of a moment's consideration, for I know of nothing else that could be expected to sympathise with the doings you think fit to chronicle, with your habit of wearing mocassins and your habit of wearing boots, with your hours for blowing your nose sonorously and your seasons for leaving it in repose. It is no excuse that your budding taste for literature was discovered by the daughter of a drunken musician with a marked genius for the banjo, and tenderly fostered by her, until the beautiful demon flew on you with streaming hair and a knife, and you fled to Salt Lake City to avenge yourself on the sex. And why you did not remain there as an elder and distribute your diary to your wives for curl-papers: why you should have burst on a quiet English village with Indian costumes, and scowlings, and addresses to lovely but haughty beings and to their "blueish-grey optics," and bitterness masked under a covering of persiflage, and dreams of marrying a dowager, and contempt for the Game Laws: why you should have presumed to dismiss the wicked valet of an invalid and establish him as proprietor of a coffee-shop, holding the risk of his poisoning an infirm old man to be of greater moment than the risk of his poisoning a considerable number of coffee-drinkers: these are problems which I confess myself unable to solve. I beg to resign my distinguished office. And in resigning it I would warn you not to talk overmuch of your sympathetic ink, for the

margin of your book is as wide as the text, and a curious reader might be tempted to warm the page with a view to discovering hidden writing: and when your book is near the fire the temptation may be too strong for readers who are not responsible for its safety to the circulating library."

Having waded through the slough of the last three books, we again touch hard ground in *Hope Meredith*. For though there is sensational bombast in it, though the daughter of a noble English family secretly marries a bank clerk, though the bank clerk is found to be a fugitive criminal and his wife keeps her secret till the lightning strikes her dead, yet *Hope Meredith* is a work of uncommon interest and shows a rare grip of character. The first glance will alarm a timid reader. Here and there a vampire will lift its wings and slowly move away, a terrible secret will come stalking forth, somebody will be chained to the dead body of the past, and Madolin Lauderdale will cry "Ha, Ha," like the war-horse perpetually quoted. But there is an exquisite painting in miniature of a child hospital-nurse, *Hope Meredith*, the only being in the world that the solitary Madolin will bring to Nunthorpe Chase, where the young middle-class girl is allowed to wander under the boar's tusks and deer's antlers that hang in the entrance-hall, among the suits of armour, Indian cabinets, and eastern curiosities that lie in the picture-gallery, sketching the proud Lauderdale ancestors, enjoying the proud Lauderdale hospitality, receiving the proud Lauderdale kiss. Miss Griselda Lauderdale objects to the intrusion, for the elder inmates of the Chase are staunch Tories, and next after the Bible they venerate the *Standard*. So Griselda is patient and waits till a lover comes from Canada, wooing sweet *Hope* and neglecting proud Madolin, till Madolin grows jealous and fears that *Hope* has learned the secret, and until the convict husband returns. Then all the good dies out of Madolin: she lies, she forges, and she steals. This devastation of a haughty spirit is natural enough. Madolin had lived a lonely life for seven years, and who can tell what a weary soul may do when harried by jealousy and despair and the *Standard*?

WALTER MACLEANE.

FRENCH AND GERMAN SCHOOL-BOOKS.

A Compendious Dictionary of the French Language. By G. Masson, Assistant Master and Librarian in Harrow School. (London: Macmillan & Co.) The two most striking features of this work are the historical and literary tables with which it commences, and the etymologies appended to nearly every French word. The principal table contains, in seventeen pages, a conspectus of French literature down to the present time. As in M. Masson's editions of French classics, the purely literary part is supplemented by "Synchronisms," i.e. contemporaneous incidents in political history, and in the literature of other countries. Such summaries are apt to be very dull, uninteresting reading; but M. Masson has a happy knack, by means of apposite and suggestive headings, of marking out in a very small space the chief groups of writers and their relations to the intellectual movements of their time. Even leading newspapers are not forgotten. Among the other tables, one of the most interesting is the list of Chronicles and Memoirs. Here and there the name and date are supplemented by an epigrammatic description, "a jewel five words long,"

such as Chateaubriand's character of St. Simon—"écrit à la diable pour l'immortalité;" or Ste. Beuve's of De Héroult—"Gil Blas supérieur, Figaro sans mauvais goût." As to the dictionary itself, the etymologies are most valuable, and M. Masson's name is, of course, sufficient guarantee for its accuracy; but we cannot help regretting that he has made it so concise. To write a dictionary on the principle of merely giving English equivalents for French words is an almost hopeless task. Take, for example, the word *reconnaître*. There are no fewer than ten English renderings given, including *visit*, *challenge*, *discover*. Would it not have been better to state distinctly the primary meaning and the chief derived uses, with some indication of the train of thought leading to them, and leave the student to supply the English equivalent that suits the passage? In a case like that just quoted, the mischief is not, perhaps, very serious; but there are instances where the absence of grouping might easily lead to want of clearness. Thus, under *se prendre* we find, *be taken*, *be caught*, *impune*, and three or four other meanings. A schoolboy looking for *s'en prendre à* would be sadly puzzled, though the meaning he wants is actually there. Again, it would be possible, without greatly increasing the bulk of the book, to give so much of the history of words as is necessary for a clear understanding of their present meaning. Under *frondeur*, *frondeuse* we should like to find some allusion to the War of the Fronde, and to the *jeu d'esprit* to which its name and the present application of the word are due; under *cordon bleu*, not only a *first-rate cook*, but also some reference to the Order of the Holy Ghost, and to our own *blue ribbon*; under *encyclopédiste*, *polytechnique*, their associations with eighteenth century literature and the great scientific school of Paris. Of course there must be a limit to the size of a dictionary, but we should be grateful to M. Masson if he would give us, what few men are so well qualified to undertake, a slight enlargement in the direction we have indicated.

The Campaigns of Napoleon (Thiers). With notes by E. E. Bowen, M.A., Master of the Modern Side in Harrow School, late Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. Vol. I. Arcola (Rivingtons.) Mr. Bowen's object has evidently been to provide for higher classes a French reading-book likely at once to interest them, and to encourage the application to modern literature of the habit of exact and critical reading which is perhaps the most valuable result of classical studies. With so wide a field to choose from, it is nearly as hard to select a book as to annotate it. Mr. Bowen vindicates his choice in the preface, and points out how much may be learnt from a well-told campaign. Military history and geography are sure to attract a schoolboy, and where battles and politics are closely interwoven, he is imperceptibly led on to take an interest in the more serious parts of historical study. And for this purpose, probably, no better subject could have been selected than the French Revolutionary wars, which, besides their intrinsic interest, bring out incidentally in such sharp relief the characteristics of the *ancien régime* throughout Europe. The notes, though not numerous, imply a good deal of research, and are very suggestive both to teachers and pupils, without ever giving too much assistance. Those on the military operations, showing the mistakes of Napoleon's opponents, calling attention to his strokes of genius, and reviewing from time to time the situation and the various courses open to the two parties, are just what is wanted to keep a boy from vague and careless reading. The criticisms of Jomini and other writers are given, where necessary, pointedly and concisely, and the maps, of which there are several, are clear and to the purpose. Again, notes like the following are capital: "It is a well-known maxim that councils of war never fight [Salamis, Plassy]." Throughout the book one traces the hand of a good teacher, who insists on having the

book he is reading perfectly understood, and never loses an opportunity of adding to the general information of his pupils.

Souvestre's Un Philosophe sous les Toits, edited by Léonce Stiévenard (Longmans & Co.), is intended to meet the wants of candidates for the Cambridge Local Examinations. It is a pity that the Syndicate should have chosen for the purpose a book which, though charmingly written and delightful after-dinner reading, contains but little to stimulate a pupil's thinking powers, or to add to his stock of information. In girls' schools, and in boys' schools where but little classics are studied, the French text-book forms a considerable part of a young person's intellectual food for several weeks or months, and should, therefore, furnish more solid reading than the chit-chat of a Parisian *flâneur*, however unaffected and high-principled. In the edition before us, such of the notes as explain the literary and miscellaneous allusions in the text are carefully done, and seem likely to be useful; most of the others are simply translations of harder passages, and will too often only save the trouble of thinking.

A French Grammar based on Philological Principles. By H. Breymann, lecturer at Owens College, Manchester. (Macmillan & Co.) The author is anxious to base the teaching of the French language on historical and comparative principles. He fully realises that modern languages are often taught in such a way as to yield but little fruit in the way of intellectual training, and proposes to remedy the evil from the point of view rather of a comparative philologist than of a scholar. The present volume contains a tolerably exhaustive Accidence, supplemented by philological notes and illustrations, which are wisely separated from the grammatical rules and paradigms. The division of the verbs into weak and strong conjugations, as in German and English, is adopted on the authority of Diez and other good writers. The crucial test is the formation of the preterite definite: verbs which, like *parler*, *vendre*, &c., add a syllable to the root, being considered weak, while those which, like *croire*, *venir*, lengthen or accent the root-vowel, are called strong verbs. This part of the book is well and fully done; some other parts, as, for example, the Introduction and the chapter on numerals, resemble, perhaps inevitably, an abridgment of Brachet, already familiar to English readers in the Clarendon Press Series. In the syntax, which is to follow, Mr. Breymann will find the field less occupied. The general arrangement is hardly clear enough; a good deal of space might have been saved, and reference facilitated, if it had not been thought necessary to give every verb a page to itself. The whole book has too much the air of an *édition de luxe*.

Companion to Schiller's "Wilhelm Tell." By H. Müller-Strübing, and Rev. R. H. Quick, M.A. 2nd edition. (London: Nutt. Harrow: Clarke.) This book meets a real difficulty in the teaching of modern languages. Few boys begin German till they have learnt the elements of grammar and of the art of translation in some other language. Thus, in attacking German with the dictionary, their intellects go faster than their fingers, and much of their labour is lost time. Moreover, if the dictionary is small they find too little information, and if it be large they are apt to lose their way. Unfortunately, too, there is no German-English dictionary of the Liddell and Scott type. The plan adopted by Messrs. Strübing and Quick is to give the meaning of each word, often with some suggestive remark on its derivation or its English cognates, and to leave the construction to the student. Thus in the first few pages we have the connexion of *Dorf* and *thorp*, the steps by which *laden* comes to mean *invite*, the French equivalent for *es steht ihm gut*, and similar hints. It is much better for a boy to learn such things and be questioned on them by his master, than

that he should be told them in class. With aid of this kind, the preparation of a German lesson becomes a definite task, and half the troubles of schoolboys and schoolmasters arise from indefiniteness. The vocabulary is carefully compiled, and is followed by an alphabetical index, by which the note on any word can easily be found. Besides this, there are constant references from note to note, so that a pupil can easily be practised in what is, after all, the best way of remembering words, to associate them with the passage in which he first met them. In addition to the vocabulary and the historical introduction, there is a very brief German accidence, sufficient to enable a boy to proceed at once to construing, leaving details to be mastered at leisure.

The Public School Series, by H. Van Laun and V. Plegnier (Strahan & Ibister), includes a series of Readers, a small primer, an accidence and a syntax, each with exercises. They are all furnished with vocabularies at the end, and the exercises are always preceded by selections of French sentences illustrating the rules. The rules in the syntax are clear and full, and the plan of the book convenient, but we cannot help regretting that the arrangement does not conform more closely to that of good classical grammars. The full treatment of the Subordinate Sentence is a most useful intellectual discipline, and, though French is an analytic language, the use of *à* and *de* has so much in common with that of the Latin genitive and dative, that it is worth while to bring out the similarity, even at the risk of diffuseness. And few things are more important than to show a boy how certain great principles of grammar run through several languages. Except for this, which in our opinion is a real defect, but which is common to so many French grammars, the series is thoroughly satisfactory; among other good points that strike us, the exercises combine a number of well-selected scraps from good authors with the more commonplace materials of an ordinary exercise book.

Contarneau's Middle Class French Series. (Longmans & Co.) Eight little books in stiff covers and at a very low price are sure to be welcome to parents who scrutinise their school bills minutely. The Grammar is in two parts, accidence and syntax; the rules are tolerably simple and clear, but there is no effort made to bring out principles, and to put the matter into the same shape as the syntax of other languages. The elementary exercise books are good, being carefully graduated and provided with complete vocabularies. The fourth, in which continuous passages are given, is less satisfactory. The passages chosen are childish stories, instead of stirring extracts from standard English authors, which are often quite as easy, and are valuable for other reasons. The notes, too, instead of being suggestive hints or references to the syntax, merely give the French equivalents of the English words. The series also includes a *Delectus* and *First Reader*.

H. W. EVE.

NOTES AND NEWS.

THE first part of the Corpus of Greek Inscriptions, which the Trustees of the British Museum decided on publishing under the editorship of Mr. Newton, the Keeper of the Classical Antiquities, is almost ready for publication. This first part embraces all the inscriptions in the Museum from Attica. The text of it has been prepared by the Rev. E. L. Hicks, formerly Fellow and Tutor of Corpus Christi College, Oxford.

MR. HENRY SIDGWICK's long-expected book on the *Methods of Ethics* is at press, and may be expected shortly. It is a little difficult to gather from the preface what is the exact purport of the book. It is not metaphysical or psychological, or historical or critical, or dogmatic or practical;

and it "avoids" the enquiry into the origin of the Moral Faculty. The area of enquiry thus narrowed is thus described:—

"It claims to be an examination, at once expository and critical, of the different methods of obtaining reasoned convictions as to what ought to be done which are to be found—either explicit or implicit—in the moral consciousness of mankind generally: and which, from time to time, have been developed, either singly or in combination, by individual thinkers, and worked up into the systems now historical."

MESSRS. H. S. KING & Co. will publish shortly *Joseph Mazzini: a Memoir*, by E. A. V., with a portrait of the author. Two Essays by Mazzini will be appended to the work, entitled "Thoughts on Democracy," and "The Duties of Man." The book is, we learn, "dedicated to the working-classes by Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P."

THE Council of the Camden Society have selected as publications for next year—1. Wriothesley's Chronicle of England from the Accession of Henry VII. to the first year of Elizabeth. Edited, with an appendix containing the official documents relating to the trial of Anne Boleyn, by W. D. Hamilton. 2. The Autobiography of Lady Anne Halkett. Edited by the late J. G. Nichols. 3. Letters addressed by Dr. Prideaux to Secretary Ellis, 1674—1722. Edited by E. Maunde Thompson.

LIEUT.-COL. W. E. MARSHALL, the author of *A Phrenologist among the Todas*, is engaged on a work to be entitled *The Scientific Aspect of Polyandry*, embodying the results of lengthened travel and sojourn among the races occupying the Western Himalay mountains.

MESSRS. WILLIAMS AND NORRIS will shortly publish *The Philosophy of "Hamlet,"* by Mr. Thomas Tyler. New solutions of the more important problems presented by the character and conduct of Hamlet will be given, based, in part, on a comparison of the later text with that of the quarto of 1603.

MESSRS. BORNTRÄGER, of Berlin, have just issued a German translation of Mr. Tennyson's *In Memoriam*, from the pen of Mdme. Agnes von Bohlen.

M. GUILLAUME GUIZOT has presented a marble bust of his father, by Robinet, to the French Academy. The public reception of M. Mézières, successor of M. Saint-Marc Girardin, is fixed for December 17. He will be answered by M. Camille Rousset.

THE *Nation* records the premature death of Mr. W. A. Wheeler, Assistant Superintendent of the Boston Public Library, and an energetic helper in the compilation of its catalogues. At the time of his death he was engaged upon a "Dictionary of Shakespearian Reference."

Polybillion announces that the Paris Japanese Society, which was founded after last year's meeting of the International Congress of Orientalists for the furtherance of Japanese, Chinese, Tartar, and Indo-Chinese studies, is in a flourishing state, and has about sixty life members. The young Society also possesses the nucleus of a good library, and its monthly meetings are well attended.

THE last number of *Trübner's American and Oriental Literary Record* contains the fullest account we have seen of the International Congress of Orientalists held in London last September. We hear that Professor Douglas, of the British Museum, has been commissioned by the committee to publish the Official Report of the Congress.

THE *Levant Herald* announces that Mehemet Fevzi Effendi, Chief Secretary of the Ministry of Finance, has just published the third volume of his *History of Turkey*. This volume relates the events of the reigns of Murad II. and Mahomet II.

WE regret to have to record the death (which occurred very suddenly on Friday, November 13) of Mrs. Hooker, the wife of the Director of Kew

Gardens and President of the Royal Society. Her loss will be much felt among a numerous circle of scientific friends which was at least European in its extent. During her youth she spent a good deal of time at Cambridge, where her father, Professor Henslow, held the chair of Botany. She was extremely attached to Dr. Whewell, and was fond of repeating stories which illustrated a side of his character curiously different in its gentleness from that which the outside world attributes to him. While living at Kew, Mrs. Hooker's keen sympathy with scientific pursuits was shown by the assistance which she was always ready to give in the work prosecuted there, and which too often gave no indication of the self-denying hand which had executed it. Her translation of Le Maout and Decaisne's *Traité Général de Botanique* was a laborious task which she willingly imposed upon herself in the interests of botany in this country. Her great conversational powers and the brightness and clearness of her intellect will be missed greatly among those who have been in the habit of seeing her at Kew—and not the least by the younger scientific men, who in many ways experienced her kindness.

ONE of the principal publishing firms at Leipzig, B. G. Teubner, has issued a paper to explain the reasons of the great increase in the price of books in Germany. It would appear that at Leipzig the wages paid to mathematical compositors have risen during the last year 100 per cent., those for classical compositors 40 to 50 per cent. But what is still more serious is the high payment that is now required for corrections. German authors seem to send their manuscript to the printers in a perfectly disgraceful state. The printers have the greatest difficulty in deciphering what is sent to them, and hence the first proof-sheets are full of the most troublesome mistakes. Many authors seem to look on the first proof sent to them as a kind of fair copy, on which they add and change *ad libitum*. The result is, as the firm of Teubner points out, that the expenses are doubled and tripled; and as the author declines to pay for the additional outlay caused by his own carelessness, the extra charge must of course be made up by the price of the book. It is strange that German publishers should not have hit on a solution of the difficulty, adopted long ago in England, viz., that everything beyond a certain sum for corrections is deducted from the author's honorarium. Or are we to suppose that in Germany the honorarium is in most cases so small that nothing can be deducted from it? We are also told that strictly scientific works have at present a much smaller sale in Germany than they used to have, so that for that reason too the prices have been raised. It is a fact, nevertheless, that German publishers undertake to bring out books at their own risk which no English publisher would touch. What firm in England would have accepted Corssen's work on the Etruscan language, or even Curtius' Principles of Greek Etymology? Yet the latter work has passed through four editions, and the sale of Corssen's first volume is said to have been far larger than could have been anticipated. Again, we see that M. Teubner advertises a new edition of the *Scholia Graeca in Homeris Carmina*, by A. Ludwich. In England the same Scholia will soon be published by Dindorf, and, as it would seem, in a much more complete form. But in England such an undertaking could never have been thought of by a private firm, and the expenses of the English edition will have to be defrayed by the Clarendon Press.

AT the suggestion of Professors Friedländer and Mommsen, the Royal Academy of Sciences at Berlin have announced that in the event of a suitable person presenting himself for the undertaking before the end of March, 1875, they will supply funds necessary for the printing and editing of a catalogue of all the Bithynian coins struck before the close of the third century after Christ. The catalogue will have to be drawn up

with reference to London and Paris collections, and must be arranged with due regard to chronology, topography, weight, &c.

THE German papers announce the death of Heinrich Brockhaus, the head of the great publishing firm at Leipzig. He was not only the greatest German publisher—the last catalogue of his house amounts to about 2,400 numbers—but he belonged to that old, and now almost extinct race of booksellers who raised their trade to the dignity of a liberal profession, and used their influence in creating and fostering a national literature. He was not only a patron of literature, but could meet the most eminent authors on terms of perfect equality. He had received the best education, and always kept pace with the advances of science and literature of the day. He was a great traveller, and there are few cities in Europe where some friends will not mourn for him. He took an active part, as a liberal politician, in the struggles for German unity and constitutional freedom. He died in his seventy-first year. His firm is now represented by his two sons, Dr. E. Brockhaus and R. Brockhaus.

THE library of M. Guizot will be among the sales this season at the Hôtel Drouot.

THERE has been lately discovered, in the War Office at Stockholm, a manuscript work composed by special order of Charles XII. to give an exact description of the military successes of Sweden upon the Continent. The work is in twenty volumes, and contains more than 200 pages filled with drawings representing the flags taken in the battles and sieges up to 1697.

DENMARK seems to be losing her great writers in exact chronological order. In 1872, Grundtvig, who was born in 1783, died; a few weeks ago Bödtcher, who was born in 1793, passed away; and now the next oldest Danish poet has followed in their wake. Just Mathias Thiele died at Copenhagen on the 9th instant, after living for many years in complete seclusion and weak health. He was born on December 13, 1795, and entered the University of Copenhagen in 1816, and was already producing such good poetry that the enthusiastic Baggesen received him as one of his poetic "sons." He travelled all over Europe, became Keeper of the Royal Collection of Engravings, and Librarian to the Academy of Arts, and was sent to Rome in 1844 to take possession of Thorwaldsen's remains. He wrote two successful dramas, *Thyre Bolöze* and *Claus Richman's Treasure*, and several collections of lyric poetry, but his chief contributions to literature are in prose, and include a life of Thorwaldsen and a study of his works, which were begun in 1831, but not published in full till 1850. He was also the author of a collection of Danish Popular Legends (*Folkesagn*) and of a volume of letters from England and Scotland, dealing with our institutions as he saw them in 1838.

ONE of our Swedish contemporaries states that the centenary of the introduction of potatoes into Europe is approaching. It was towards the close of 1774 that Parmentier first succeeded in producing home-grown roots in France. It seems characteristic of the madness for festivals that just now distinguishes the northern races of Europe, that our Swedish friend suggests the propriety of getting up a great Potato Jubilee, more especially as the introduction of potatoes into Europe is generally attributed to Sir Walter Raleigh.

THE recent sympathy shown for Denmark by the nations speaking our language has given a great impetus to the study of English literature among the Danes. Especially our periodical press is made a subject of study, and the practice of translating articles from English and American magazines is rapidly increasing. For instance, *Nær og Fjern* for November 15 gives a version of Bret Harte's *Fool of Five Forks* from *Macmillan's Magazine*; and *Fædrelandet* for November 13 translates in full Mr. Edmund Gosse's recent

article in the *Cornhill* on the Danish National Theatre, with an editorial note saying that the paper "is written with so much warmth, and, in spite of some mistakes and misapprehensions, contains so much true and graceful criticism," that it will certainly be read with pleasure.

AMONG the latest presents for children with which the ingenious Santa Claus is careful to load his winter sledge, must be counted the Christmas numbers of the magazines. He does not, indeed, envelope these gifts with delightful mystery as of old, nor surreptitiously drop them into chimneys warm with the smoke of yule-logs, nor secretly place them in the pendulous stocking; he even gives early notice of their preparation by earthly agencies, and allows them to be presented long before custom suffers him to harness his reindeer and take his midnight ride abroad, and he is content that their pictorial ivy and holly shall be withered when the festival of Frey arrives. But as a recompense for this he exerts miraculous skill in snowing up talkative travellers, impeding trains of communicative passengers, stirring the memories of the old inmates of workhouses, and otherwise facilitating the narration of moving accidents by flood and field. Foremost among his prophets is Mr. B. L. Farjeon, who writes the Christmas annuals of *Tinsley's Magazine*, and who has this year composed a graceful allegory called *The King of No-Land*. It is the tale of a Prince Florestan of fairy-land and his wanderings in the kingdom of flowers with three small fiddling maidens for companions, and may be read by children on the surface with much delight, and by their elders a little deeper with not less pleasure. And notice the power of Santa Claus. Even the venerable Sylvanus Urban, Gentleman, does not disdain to quit the arm-chair from which he has gossiped to the world for a century and a half, and despite sundry rheumatic twinges to wave his wand with the grace of a columbine till the literary familiars assemble to do his bidding, to write of pixies' courts and sugar-plum houses, of yeoman beetles and spiders-at-arms and wasp judges, calling their Christmas work *Like a Snowball*. And having made you this seasonable offering and prayed you, his masters, to be merry, quot estis in convivio, Sylvanus returns placidly to his dressing-gown and slippers, and will doubtless make his periodical utterances with wonted equanimity.

THE publication of a work by M. Léon Walras gave occasion to a paper read by Professor Jevons before the Statistical Society of Manchester, at their meeting on Wednesday last, on "The Mathematical Theory of Political Economy." M. Walras speaks of Mr. Jevons as joint discoverer with himself of this theory, but having, of course, the credit of its first publication; and Mr. Jevons appears to have a high respect for the opinion of M. Walras. Mr. Jevons complains of the neglect of his doctrines by English economists generally, but enumerates many foreigners who have given some sort of assent to them. Here, however, Mr. Jevons is not sufficiently precise. There are three propositions to which assent must be given by any one who is, strictly speaking, an adherent of Mr. Jevons' doctrine. The first is that some portions of the pure theory of political economy can be efficiently presented in mathematical language. No person who is in a position to understand what is meant by this proposition can withhold his assent from it. The second proposition is that Professor Jevons has, by means of this method, made improvements in the theory of political economy. This must be granted by all who follow his work; although those who are conversant with the literature of the subject will know that the exposition of the laws of exchange by means of functional equations is nearly forty years old, and will probably think that his contributions to this work are not the most important that have been made. The third proposition is that those of Mr. Jevons' reasonings which claim to be subversive of important positions held by Mill, do actually succeed in subverting them. Mr. Jevons

does not distinctly state that any eminent economists have given in their adhesion directly to this proposition; and it is probable that few, if any, have done so. Curiously enough, another able writer has been tilting against Mill: the two have charged at Mill from opposite sides, and have fallen foul of each other. Professor Cairnes is astonished because Mill, instead of regarding his old doctrine of the Wages-fund as perfect, has introduced into it, to use Mill's own phrase, "the qualifications and limitations necessary to make it admissible." Professor Jevons, in support of the opinion that Mill's writings will be found to "consist to a large extent of ingenious sophisms," brings into prominence the statement that "already his exposition of the Wages-fund has been overthrown by Professor Cliffe Leslie." With regard to the whole of the wages-problem it may be said that Mr. Jevons and Mr. Cairnes in general see vividly each that class of considerations which the other almost ignores. Mr. Jevons devotes a considerable portion of his address to an examination of the sweeping condemnation of his account of utility with which Mr. Cairnes opens his last book. This book, otherwise so fascinating and instructive, is marred by a want of the sympathetic subtlety which enables a man to enter into the thoughts of those whose positions he believes himself to be assailing; and Mr. Jevons has no difficulty in showing that much of what is intended as an attack upon his theory of utility has no reference to the theory as held by him. Mr. Jevons' doctrine of "final utility," or of the relation that exists between the value-in-use of an additional unit of a commodity to a man and the amount of that commodity which he already has, is important even if it be not so new as he imagines it to be. His applications of it are striking and suggestive, and it happens that, if Mr. Cairnes had familiarised himself with them, he might have improved his new book in several regards. The address brings the two professors before us together. Professor Cairnes is graceful and sound. Professor Jevons is vigorous and original. Much of his inductive work is first-rate, and the address gives fresh evidence that the efficiency of his work for the abstract science of political economy is most grievously crippled, but is not destroyed, by his anxiety to prove that he has revolutionised the science.

WE give here some further extracts from the journalist's note-book we alluded to a few weeks back:—

"I reached London for the second time on Sept. 17, 1830, after nearly two years' absence. The perceptible changes wrought during that time were—the removal of Exeter Change and the widening of parts of the Strand; the removal of that great eye-sore Fleet Market and the erection in its stead of that of Farringdon; the advancement of the New London Bridge and the erection of the land arches over the old streets at the approaches; the throwing open of the inclosure in St. James's Park to the public; the completion of the new Post Office in St. Martin's le Grand; and the introduction of the new police and the carriages called the omnibus. At this period the new police system was exciting much disapprobation in the parishes into which it had been introduced, several parochial and other meetings being held on the subject. The alleged causes of complaint were their being an unconstitutional half military force, the great expense they entailed, and their non-efficiency; to which was added that they were all or nearly all Irishmen."

At this time (as may be gathered from other occasional entries) evidences of the recent French revolution were visible in the principal thoroughfares and streets, and its popularity was visible in tri-coloured ribbons, watch-guards, pocket-handkerchiefs and other articles. Even the puffing hand-bills of some of the tradesmen, anxious to assimilate themselves to the prevailing hue of the time, adopted a tri-coloured border. Meetings and subscriptions to congratulate and aid them in their progress to freedom were called daily, and

the great movement in the French metropolis seemed to be as popular here as in Paris. At this time also a society met every Monday at the Rotunda, Blackfriars Bridge, which called itself the Radical Reform Association, at the head of which was Hunt, since member for Preston.

"Was introduced at the Coal Hole by its owner, Rhodes, to M. Silvain, the (so announced) Paris dancer, who came over with the company of Parisian dancers to perform for Bunn at Covent Garden and Drury Lane. M. Silvain, in plain English, is an Irishman, and his real name Sullivan, which, especially with an 'O' prefixed, would never, it was shrewdly supposed, have gone down with John Bull. Sullivan seemed rather an intelligent chap, considering that professionally he made more use of his heels than his head; said he was born at Cork, which place he left early in life, and had lived the greater part of his time on the Continent. He brought his mother to reside with him in Paris, but she, poor woman, whether unable to 'catch the accent,' as her countryman Curran once said of gaping Irishman with his tongue out, staring at the pictures in the London print-shops, or more probably that with the natural feeling of her class and sex, in Ireland she wished to live and die and be buried, she however preferred to return there, and lived at the time somewhere near Dublin, her son supported her declining days in comfort."

"Had a visit from Captain Glascock at my lodgings 11 Southampton Street, Strand, he having come according to my invitation to see beforehand the notice which I had prepared for the — newspaper of the second series of his Naval Sketch Book. He had his pockets stowed with newspapers containing reviews and notices of his book, which he said he had bought to show his publisher Whitaker. One of these by our mutual friend Robert Bell, editor of the *Atlas*, was good and friendly. We talked of Marryatt's sketches, *Peter Simple*, &c.; he praised Marryatt, then editor of the *Metropolitan Magazine*."

"April 24, 1834.—On this occasion the King and Queen went in state the first time for some years to visit Drury Lane Theatre. I and my wife got tickets of admission from Bunn to get on the stage when the performers were singing the National Anthem. The King and Queen were well received, although the matter was at first a little doubtful. This was my first appearance on any stage in any character. I took part in the choruses standing immediately behind Templeton and little Miss Poole. A curious thing occurred on this evening. After the play in which Miss E. Tree played Lady Teazle, the audience called for Rule Britannia, the second verse fell to the lot of Templeton, and strange enough he had not even the first line of it by heart; however, by Braham's aid he endeavoured to bungle through it. The third verse was sung by 'little' Fitzwilliam, who was there by accident."

The first of a new series of documents in Basque and French to illustrate the period of the Revolution, has just been published by Cazals, of Bayonne. This series will in one sense be the complement of, in another introductory to, the earlier series of *Documents pour servir à l'Etude Historique de la Langue Basque*, previously commenced by the same publisher. To the student of Escuara it will prove introductory, inasmuch as the Basque of these documents will differ much less from the Basque of to-day than does that of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, and also because these later documents are bilingual, and the French will always be printed, as in the present pamphlet, side by side with the Basque. Historically, this series will be the complement of the earlier one, and the two will give a sufficient historical conspectus of the Basque language from the earliest printed works to the present day. Even to the more general historian this series will not be devoid of interest; it will show the working of the Revolution and of the revolutionary spirit in one of the most remote provinces of the kingdom, and that one in which the people had had less than any others to suffer from the evils of the old régime. In the present "Cahier des Vœux et Instructions des Basques-Français pour leurs Députés aux Etats-généraux de 1789," the abuses signalled are chiefly those of excessive

taxation and of mal-administration of justice; the only case of feudal oppression indicated is that of the ecclesiastical seigneurs of the parishes of Bonloc and Lahonce, while the attachment of the people to the family of the Gramonts, the hereditary governors of Bayonne, is warmly expressed.

NOTES OF TRAVEL.

THE long and elaborate letter of Dr. Petermann to the Royal Geographical Society, which we published in our last issue, seems to have had the effect of giving the final push to the tardy resolve of the English Government to fit out an expedition for the exploration of the Arctic regions. Mr. Disraeli has declared definitely that we are to have such an expedition, in a letter published in the *Times* of Tuesday last. We are informed that the command will be taken by Captain Markham.

IN the course of the excavations at present going on for the purpose of draining the Teltow district near Berlin, and constructing a canal, an enormous quantity of amber was lately obtained, consisting of more than eighty separate masses, which have been sent to the Town Museum at Berlin, to be incorporated with the national local collections.

LIEUTENANT CONDER has forwarded to the Palestine Exploration Fund notes on a few sites connected with the hill country of Judah, noted by himself during the first fortnight of the winter work, which will lie wholly in the south of the country. Vandeveld's Eschol, which he has visited, he finds to be a fountain called Ain Keshkali, instead of Eshkali. Unless, therefore, an aleph can be replaced by a kaf, this identification must be given up. Bezeth, or Bethzetho, the place occupied by Bacchides on retiring from Jerusalem, where subsequently Judas was defeated, Lieutenant Conder thinks he has found in Beit Zata, where, at any rate, the only requisite, "the large pit"—"rō ḥpiq rō miya"—is perhaps satisfied by the existence of a great *birket*. He also thinks he has found the Seir, connected with the invasion of the Moabites and Maonites in the reign of Jehoshaphat, in a modern village called Sair. The direct road from the cliff of Ziz, if that be the ascent by which the Arabs now gain the higher ground from Ain Jidy, leads to Tekua, and there is an important pass towards the village of Beit Ainum, in which the village of Sair lies hidden among the hills, surrounded with gardens and quite unprotected. Pilate's aqueduct has also been followed to its source from the point, near Tekoa, at which Mr. Tyrwhitt Drake left it. It is found to be about thirty miles long, following the windings of the valleys. Josephus says it was twenty-five Roman miles in length.

It appears from the communications addressed to Professor Bruhns, of Leipzig, in regard to the movements of the German expeditions appointed to watch the transit of Venus, that the *Gazelle*, which left Plymouth on July 3, anchored in the harbour of Porto Troja (Island of St. Iago) on the 27th of that month, and reached Monrovia (Liberia) on the 4th, and Ascension Island on August 18. The frigate which had conveyed the first of the three great German expeditions had arrived at Cape Town on September 26, after a very short and favourable voyage from Banana, and proposed remaining there till October 3, which had been fixed for the day of sailing to the Kerguelen Islands. The second of the German expeditions, which was bound for the Auckland Islands, is reported to be in as favourable a condition as that of the *Gazelle*; while the third, or Chinese expedition, which left Southampton on August 20, is announced, through private despatches, to have arrived on October 17 at Shanghai, where it was to remain till after the transit. According to the announcements received through the cable at the Paris Observatory from Professor Janssen, the head of the Nagasaki expedition, the weather was favourable at that station

on the afternoon of November 8, and observations were going on at the time the message was being transmitted.

RECENT explorations in Newfoundland have brought to light the existence of new sources of wealth hitherto confined to a narrow belt of country adjoining the coast, where the inhabitants plied their fishing. Mr. Murray, the engineer in charge of the Geological Survey, during last year examined the region around St. George Bay, and discovered fertile wooded valleys, coal and gypsum deposits (the latter of considerable extent), and petroleum springs. During the current season he surveyed the basin of the Gander River to the eastward of the island, which is inhabited by about a hundred poor people, who live by salmon-fishing in summer and hunting in winter. The river winds considerably in its course, and forms four vast marshes, the largest of which is six miles long and studded with islands; the scenery is of rare beauty, though the banks have a uniformly gentle slope and are rather unvarying in their aspect. On August 13 last Mr. Murray reached Gander Lake, about thirty miles up the river. He considers that the land there surpasses any portion of Nova Scotia or New Brunswick in its suitability for colonisation, and that it would afford plenty of room for 100,000 settlers.

M. GORCEIX, a traveller known for his researches in Turkey, has made known to the Paris Geographical Society some of his investigations in the province of Rio Grande do Sul, in the south of Brazil. The rivers flowing down from the Sierra da Mar, a range running parallel with the coast, bring down a constant accumulation of quartzite *débris*, which on rising above the sea level is soon covered with luxuriant vegetation, while a deposit or accretion of shells serves to bind and protect the margin against the action of the waves and the tempests. Under the favouring influence of tropical heat and humidity, islands and peninsulas of great fertility are thus soon formed. Beyond the Sierra da Mar to the westward, porphyry succeeds the granite and gneiss, and still further on in the basin of the Candiota coal has been discovered by M. Plant, a fact of great economic importance to the Brazilian Government. Near the town of Bage the climate is much more temperate, the flora is like that of Southern Europe, and there are no forests. The traveller crosses undulating plains, similar to the pampas of the Argentine Republic, which afford a rich pasture to large herds of oxen. The sparse population is chiefly composed of Portuguese and Spaniards, while there is still a trace of the old Indian blood in the Gauchos, a half-civilised race who appear to live entirely on horseback. A few Germans have settled, and are doing well in the northwest of the province, and there is plenty of accommodation for a much larger influx of immigrants.

SMALL-POX appears to rage unchecked among the nomad inhabitants of the Kalmuck steppes. The *Golos* states that as soon as a case breaks out in a *kibitka* or tent, the remaining inhabitants treat the invalid as if he were already dead, and leave him without a living being to tend him. The only so-called remedy ever employed is warm milk and water; and brandy, accompanied by a wholesome penance in the shape of scourging, is considered a good preventative. There is a doctor who receives about 3*l*. a month for looking after the sanitary condition of the Kalmucks, but he lives at Astrakhan, and his time is entirely occupied with surgical cases, deeds of violence being unfortunately not unknown in those parts. There are also two official vaccinators attached to each *oulouss* or circle, but these individuals, it is said, confine their official labours to drawing their stipends and clamouring for more. It is not surprising, therefore, to read that a tenth of the Kalmucks succumbed during last winter to the ravages of this terrible disease.

DR. NACHTIGALL has arrived at Khartum, and has addressed from thence an important letter, bearing date September 18, to M. Duveyrier, in Paris, on the subject of the war in Dar-Fur, and his journey thence from Wadai. Our readers are perhaps unaware that this enterprising traveller has been absent from Europe for more than five years; during that time he has traversed a large extent of Central Africa, and though he describes himself as not utterly broken down in health, fever has tried him severely. His letter to M. Duveyrier is reproduced in the *Débats*, and from it it appears that the real *casus belli* in Dar-Fur was the hankering which the Egyptian Government have always had after the countries west of Kordofan, *i.e.*, Darfur and Wadai. This covetousness led them to supply soldiers and money to a pretender named Fighi Muhammad el Bolalâl, who undertook to annex the wished-for countries, and took as his theatre of operations the region between the southern boundaries of Dar-Fur and the Bahr-al-Ghazal. Here, however, there was already installed an ivory and slave merchant, named Ziber. By dint of purchasing muskets, and through his unscrupulous audacity, he had succeeded in making the surrounding tribes pay tribute to him. El Bolalâl's presence naturally provoked a quarrel, and Ziber, at the head of a motley rabble composed of the dregs of the population, succeeded in slaying his rival. With characteristic impudence, he not only succeeded in procuring free pardon from the Egyptian Government, but by dint of a money bribe got promoted to El Bolalâl's place. He next turned his attention to a tribe called the Rizegats, tributaries of Dar-Fur, and by enticing away their allegiance produced an open rupture between the Sultan of Dar-Fur and himself. One section of the tribe having remained true to its old master and pillaged a caravan on its way to Ziber's headquarters, was promptly punished, and their territory formally annexed in the name of the Khedive. Ziber was created Bey and Mudir of Schegga, with the rank of colonel in the Egyptian army, and then invaded the country to the west between El Hofra and Dar-Fur proper. Ismail Pasha, the governor of the Sudan, then showed his hand, and having openly despatched guns to Ziber, proceeded at the head of 2,000 infantry and irregular cavalry to El Obeid, with the intention of marching upon Fadjar, the chief town of Dar-Fur. Ziber has 8,000 men and six guns, while the Sultan of Dar-Fur has no less than 100,000 troops, but they are but poor stuff. Should, however, the Sultan of Wadai join Dar-Fur, the war will assume a serious aspect, involving as it does the fate of an immense tract of equatorial Africa.

DR. PETERMANN has also received a letter, under date Khartum, September 15, from Dr. Nachtigall, in which he gives a detailed description of his route from Wadai as far as Kordofan, and states that had he known that war was so imminent he would not have stayed four months in Dar-Fur, as the hatred and fanaticism shown by the inhabitants (though the Sultan himself was friendly) made his task of collecting information on the manners and customs of the people a very unpleasant one.

At the last meeting of the German scientific men and physicians at Breslau, Herr Karsten delivered an address describing the scientific explorations made lately in the Baltic and the North Sea, by means of which, among other things, the important discovery is held to have been made, that the comparatively mild temperature which characterises the west coast of Norway is not, as has hitherto been considered, the effect of the Gulf Stream, but of a warm current of water that leaves the Baltic when the cold weather sets in.

JOHN MILTON, THE SCRIVENER.

In the examination of some bundles of proceedings belonging to the Court of Requests, Mr. R. F. Isaacson, of the Public Record Office, has met with a suit in which John Milton, the father of the poet, was a defendant. A brief summary of the chief points of the case may perhaps prove of interest to our readers, inasmuch as the matter contained in these proceedings is new, and illustrates one of the most important branches of the business of a scrivener. Moreover, as the bill of complaint contains a somewhat serious charge against one who is described by his son as "a man of the utmost integrity" (*viro integerrimo*), and as his grandson informs us "conspicuous for industry and prudent conduct of his affairs," it seemed at first sight strange, to find accidentally documents which apparently contradicted the received notions as to his character. It therefore appeared to be a matter of some interest to trace the result of the insinuations made against him, in order to ascertain in what way they were met.

The proceedings are not complete, but those already found are quite sufficient for our purpose, that is, for the support of the received character of the poet's father. They consist of four documents: a bill of complaint, commission, and two answers. Commencing with the bill of complaint, which is dated 28 May, 12 Charles I. (1636)—and retaining as far as possible the wording of the document—it is set out by Sir Thomas Cotton, of Sawtrey in the county of Huntingdon, executor of the will of John Cotton, Esq., deceased, that the said John Cotton, being an old man of fourscore years and upwards, did about five years previous to the above date put into the hands of one John Milton and Thomas Bower, servant to the said John Milton, divers great sums of money to be let out at interest "after the rate of eight in the hundred." The names of the persons to whom the money was so put out are given: among them we notice—Sir Kenelme Digby, Sir Richard Molineux, Sir William Norris, Sir Robert Heath, Sir William Sandys, Sir George Horsey, Mr. Dabridgecourt, and many others, the sums lent amounting to 3,600*l.* The bill continues, that at first the interest accruing from these sources was paid regularly, and it was always understood that the sums so invested had been put out to "sufficient and able men," and in fact this was the case. But, shortly after, the said John Milton and Thomas Bower, finding the said John Cotton to be "decrepit" and "unable to follow his occasions," and by reason of his great years constrained to keep his chamber, they—by the practice of one Thomas Holchar, an attorney at law, used by the said John Cotton in suing bonds—ceased to bring interest or principal, and made out that both interest and principal were desperate, and that the debtors were non-solvent. Thus, Milton and Bower tried to persuade Cotton to give up the bonds for the sum of 2,000*l.*, so that they might then endeavour to recover, and if successful, retain for themselves the original sums lent out. The complainant further says that the said Milton and Bower got one John Collwell, Esq., with whom Cotton then lay, for the sum of 2,000*l.* to assist them in working upon Cotton as to the desperate state of these debts, which he did. By which combination they did draw Cotton to give up the bonds to Bower for the 2,000*l.*, so that they might renew them in their names, and so take the principal and interest. Before the completion of this transaction Milton and Bower had received 500*l.* on account of the said bonds, and as soon as the matter was completed they proceeded to recover the whole sum of 3,600*l.*, being 1,800*l.* more than they had paid. Shortly after, John Cotton died, leaving his nephew Sir Thomas Cotton, the complainant, his executor, who "in a friendly manner" requested the said Milton and Bower to accept their 2,000*l.* back, and to pay over all sums received or secured on the said obligations, and to deliver over the new securities for the said debts, and to account

to Sir Thomas Cotton for the 3,600*l.* This being refused, the complainant prays for process of Privy Seal to compel Holchar, Milton, and Bower to account.

Such being the serious charges set out in this bill of complaint, a commission follows, dated March 10, 1636-7, which authorises an enquiry with respect to the allegations so made. This brings us to the principal of the documents under notice, viz.:—"The answer of John Milton to the bill of complaint of Sir Thomas Cotton, baronet, executor of the last will and testament of John Cotton, Esq., deceased, complainant." It is dated May 1, 1637, and is of some length, but contains a complete and satisfactory answer to the charges in the bill. Briefly, Milton replies that John Cotton, though a man of good years, was still of good memory and understanding, and was no ways "decrepito" in body or defective in mind, to his knowledge. He also denies that five years since the said John Cotton put into his hands or Bower's—his partner, and not servant as stated in the bill—any sum to be let out in trust; but he admits that before he and Bower became partners, and after their co-partnership, the said John Cotton did dispose of and lend at his shop, situate in Bread Street, London, divers sums to the value of about 3,300*l.* He confesses also that he thinks it may be true that the sums mentioned in the bill, or most of them, were lent out by Cotton, but the particulars he cannot remember, his employment being great in that way, and the matters being since he gave over his trade; but he sayeth that the moneys were not put into the hands of this defendant, or of the other defendant T. Bower, within five years; since it manifestly appears by the plaintiff's own bill that the bonds were before that date, and divers of them fifteen years since; and that the interest was always paid soon after its receipt.

Moreover, as the answer proceeds, this defendant (Milton) confesseth, that the said John Cotton in his lifetime, by what reason this defendant knoweth not, "but conceaveth it to be out of timerousness," and fear that he might lose some of his debts, did voluntarily make an offer to this defendant to accept 2,000*l.* for the moneys lent and managed for him at this defendant's shop, which moneys amounted to about 3,300*l.* But this offer the said defendant utterly refused, and was much grieved at the same, and took it very ill of John Cotton that he should make such an offer, as it was a great disparagement to this defendant, his trade, and shop; and the said defendant assured him his money was in no danger, and so he departed. Cotton, however, persisting in his fear, then went to Bower as the said defendant hath heard, and Bower joined with Holchar, an attorney in the Common Pleas, and procured certain moneys of Sir Thomas Middleton, late alderman of London, which were paid to Cotton upon bargain for the bonds. The answer further states, that although John Milton and Bower were co-partners in the trade of a scrivener, yet they were never partners concerning the bargain pretended by the bill. The defendant Milton therefore prays to be dismissed from forth the same, with his reasonable costs and charges in this behalf wrongfully sustained. Thus, Milton entirely exonerated himself from any complicity in this business, and left his partner Bower to put in his answer as to his share in the matter in whatever manner he might think fit. This answer has, however, not yet been found; but the fourth document—a much decayed fragment—is the further answer of Thomas Bower, dated December 5, 13 Charles I. (1637), in which, from a clause at the end just decipherable, that "the defendant (Bower) conceiveth the interest money due on every the said bonds unto the said assignment, and putting over of the same to this defendant, did not belong to the said John Cotton as aforesaid, therefore not material to the complainant to know how much thereof this defendant received, or of whom"—it

would appear that Bower stood his ground as to the transaction, and awaited the decree of the Court as to the validity of the assignment of the bonds. This decree has also yet to be traced, but will hardly be attended with any great difficulty to anyone interested in the point.

BOSTON LETTER.

Boston: Oct. 29, 1874.

The first volume of Mr. Hubert Howe Bancroft's *Native Races of the Pacific States of North America* has just appeared. It is a good-sized octavo of about eight hundred pages, containing a rich store of valuable information concerning the aboriginal inhabitants of the western half of this country. The author has been satisfied with going over the work of others, selecting whatever might be of importance and arranging it in the most convenient form for the use of those who may build theories with these facts for a basis, and who will owe a large debt of gratitude to Mr. Bancroft's thoroughness and exactness.

He says, in his preface—

"At present the few grains of wheat are so hidden by mountains of chaff as to be of comparatively little benefit to searchers in the various branches of learning; and to sift and select from this mass, to extract from bulky tomes and transient journals, from the archives of convent and mission, facts valuable to the scholar and interesting to the general reader; to arrange these facts in a natural order, and to present them in such a manner as to be of practical benefit to enquirers in the various branches of knowledge, is a work of no small import and responsibility."

It would have been hard to find any one who was better qualified for this unambitious but useful task. It was fifteen years ago that Mr. Bancroft began collecting material for this work, and after having accumulated some sixteen thousand books, manuscripts, pamphlets, &c., he began to prepare his book in 1860. The difficulty of the task it is easy to judge from the fact that no fewer than twelve hundred authorities are quoted by the author.

He has divided the native races of the Pacific States into seven groups, namely: I. Hyperboreans, those dwelling north of lat. 55° N.; II. Columbians, living between lat. 42° and lat. 55°; III. Californians and inhabitants of the Great Basin; IV. New Mexicans, including the nations of the Colorado River and northern Mexico; V. Wild tribes of Mexico; VI. Wild tribes of Central America; VII. Civilised nations of Mexico and Central America. He says that there is no system of classification which would be perfectly satisfactory, and that therefore he has adopted this geographical one as the clearest to the general reader. In the treatment of each of these divisions he gives a list of the different nations composing it, an account of the physical geography of the region they inhabit or inhabited, of any noteworthy peculiarities in the climate, the physical characteristics of the people, their dress, dwellings, food, weapons, implements, arts, laws, government, domestic habits and amusements, their marriage customs, their treatment of women, their diseases, method of burial, &c., &c. If there are many tribes composing the nation, there is devoted to each whatever space is necessary for the mention of its peculiarities; and at the end of the chapter treating of each of the prominent groups is an appendix giving as nearly as may be the tribal boundaries. Every page is fully annotated with quotations confirming and often adding to the statements in the text. Reference is made to the volume and page of every authority quoted.

Where there is so much that is curious, it is impossible further to compress the concise body of facts to be found in this book; but a few curious facts may be pointed out. The *cavade* is mentioned as prevailing among the Californian Indians. And while there is generally shown great diversity of repugnant customs among the

different tribes of Indians, they hold, with but few exceptions, to the habit of banishing from the tribes for a short time girls who are just attaining maturity. One lesson to be learned from the book is that it is only the civilised man who can break away from the rigid control of fashion: nowhere is it more despotic than among savages.

The second volume is to treat of the civilised nations, while the subjects Mythology, Languages, Antiquities, and Migrations are left for the three remaining volumes of the work. Judging from this first volume, Mr. Bancroft deserves much gratitude for undertaking and accomplishing so well this difficult task.

Dr. O. W. Holmes's *Songs in Many Keys* is a collection of various little poems which were in danger of being buried in forgotten newspapers, or in the back volumes of magazines. Besides those which were written to order for various festal occasions there are some amusing *vers de société*, such as "Dorothy Q." and "The Organ Blower." It is an unpretending, readable volume.

Mr. Whittier, too, has made a collection of a few of his scattered poems, adding to them eight or ten short pieces written by his sister. The book bears the title of *Hazel Blossoms*, alluding to his age and the probability of his writing but little more.

He says:—

"Small beauty hath my unsung flower
For spring to own or summer hail;
But, in the season's saddest hour,
To skies that weep and winds that wail
Its glad surprises never fail."

"O days grown cold! O life grown old!
No rose of June may bloom again;
But, like the hazel's twisted gold,
Through early frost and latter rain
Shall hints of summer-time remain."

Of his sister's poems, perhaps the one most worthy of mention is that called "Lady Franklin."

T. S. PERRY.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE RUSHWORTH GLOSSES.

Mill Hill: Nov. 16, 1874.

The appearance of the Rev. W. W. Skeat's Gospel of St. Luke in the various Anglo-Saxon and Northumbrian versions, for the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press, induces me to draw attention to the Rushworth Gloss, or rather Glosses, and their relationship to that of the Durham Book, or Lindisfarne Gospels. Mr. Hardwick, in his Preface to St. Matthew, says of the Rushworth, "the interlinear text from the Lindisfarne Gospels is here accompanied by a *cognate version* known as the Rushworth Gospels;" and Mr. Skeat, in his Preface to St. Mark, says: "Hitherto it seems hardly to have been pointed out with sufficient distinctness that the Rushworth-Gloss is really derived from the Lindisfarne in a very direct manner," and he goes on to show at length that the Rushworth is, in effect, very nearly a simple transcript of the Lindisfarne. Now, as I happen to have acquired a very intimate acquaintance with the Gospel of St. Matthew in both the Lindisfarne and Rushworth versions (having, in days when books were not so accessible to me, in a remote Scottish village, as they are now, made a complete transcript of both, from a copy of the *Surtees* edition lent me by the Rev. Canon Greenwell, of Durham, in course of which the language and phraseology of both became indelibly imprinted on my memory), I was, in recently reading Mr. Skeat's Preface to St. Mark, greatly astonished by a statement which was completely at variance with my own experience. But a hasty plunge into the versions themselves speedily dissipated the mystery: Mr. Hardwick's and Mr. Skeat's words are true of Mark, Luke and John (with exception of John xviii. 1-3) but *not* of Matthew (which Mr. Skeat has not had occasion to collate, his connexion with the edition commencing with Mark; for there are *two* distinct Rushworth glosses: the gloss to St. Mark, &c., a copy, as Mr. Skeat shows, of the Lindisfarne; and the gloss to St. Matthew, a work totally different, neither "cognate" with the Lindisfarne, nor connected with it in any way whatever, either in version or dialect). The Rushworth version of the three latter Gospels is, like its original, Northumbrian; like it also, it is a verbal gloss, following the Latin text word for word in all its inversions: the version of St. Matthew is in ordinary Anglo-Saxon, very little modified from the usual West Saxon

orthography, and it is not a word-for-word gloss, but a readable idiomatic version. As a rule, indeed, the Rushworth version of Matthew has much more in common with the "classical" West Saxon, in the first column of the Cambridge edition, which has been already edited by Parker, Marshall, Thorpe, and Bosworth, than with the Lindisfarne. Yet, there is not the slightest reason to suppose that the Rushworth is in any way connected with the "classical" version; it is either an original work of Farman's, or a copy of one of which nothing else is known. A single specimen will (to those who have not at hand Messrs. Hardwick and Skeat's splendid edition, or that of the Surtees Society) illustrate all four points, viz.: that the Rushworth Matthew is distinct from the Lindisfarne in origin, distinct from it in dialect, distinct from the West Saxon in origin, but akin to it in dialect. I open at random at Matthew v. 32:

*L. ic soðlice cueðo to iuh, forðon eghuelc
†R. Ic bonne sege eow or iu, bætne aghwile þara
‡W. Ic sege eow to soðum, þet aelc
L. seðe forletes wif his, buta unclenes lustas inting,
R. be forletes his wif, butan forlegennisse þingum,
W. be his wif forlet, buton forlegennysse þingum,
L. gedoeð or wyras ða ilea gesyngenge; and seðe
R. he doð þet hiu deraunga liege; and seðo
W. he doð þet heo unriht-hæmð; and se
L. forleteno laedas he synngieð.
R. þet forletene him laedas, hefseþ unreht hæmþ.
W. unriht-hæmð þe forletene after him genimð.
L. Eft-sona herde ge forðon acueden is
R. Eft ge geherdon bætne cwæden was
W. Eft ge gehyrdon bæt geeweden was
L. ðem aldum: ne ðerh suere ðu to suiðe,
R. gū-monnum: ne swar þu man,
W. on ealdum cwydum: ne forsware þu,
L. ðu forgeldest soðlice drihtne gihata aðas ðine,
R. agef bonne drihten þine hafas.
W. soðlice Drihtne þu agylst þine aðas.

We have, therefore, in the Rushworth version of St. Matthew a new and independent Anglo-Saxon translation; and we may well regret that chance or design put the Lindisfarne MS. in Farman's way when he had reached the end of St. Matthew, and thus stopped him in his own translation, if it was his, or in following his southern copy, if he had one. Knowing that Farman's work at the gloss (with exception of John xviii. 1-3) terminated in the middle of the 15th verse of the 2nd chapter of Mark, the idea struck me, on my discovery of the difference between Matthew and Mark, that probably all Farman's work showed the independent translation, and that we should find the servile following of the Lindisfarne commence with the work of the other glosser Owun. But on eagerly turning to the place, I found it was not so; the independent version ends with Matthew, and the small portion of Mark done by Farman is, like the rest of it, after the Lindisfarne. Nevertheless, this small portion presents points of great interest. As is well known, the Lindisfarne gloss is throughout characteristically northern, not only in its spelling and phonology, but also in its grammatical inflections. Thus the verb has in the plural of the present indicative -as, and in the third singular -es, instead of the -ð and -eð of the "classical" West Saxon. The present infinitive ends in -a, or -e, instead of -an, and final n is similarly lost from verbal plurals, and the cases of nouns and adjectives; the old Northumbrian, in these and many other peculiarities, approaching the cognate Frisian and Scandinavian idioms. Now Farman's Matthew has, *exceptis excipiendis*, none of these peculiarities; its inflections, as I have said before, are those of the West Saxon, somewhat degraded perhaps. And even in the first 69½ verses of Mark, where Farman implicitly follows the words and order of the Lindisfarne, he systematically alters the inflections to the dialect of his Matthew,

allowing only here and there, as it were by oversight, a Lindisfarne form to creep into his own work.

Moreover—what is perhaps an individual peculiarity—the Lindisfarne gloss altogether tabooes the *thorn* (þ) except in the contraction for *that* (þ) using the *divided d* (ð) in all positions, while Farman almost as exclusively uses the *thorn*, the divided ð being only a by-form in his Matthew; so in the part of Mark copied by him from the Lindisfarne, he changes the ð systematically into his þ, here again, however, occasionally nodding, and admitting a stray ð from his exemplar. Thus the Lindisfarne foregearus, wyras, waæxes, cymes, gelefes, befora, losige, naðle leta spreca, hia, are changed by Farman into foregearwað, wyracþ, waæxeð, cymē, gelefap, beforan, ne let him sprecan. But when we come to Owun's share of the gloss in the middle of ch. ii. v. 15, we find the Lindisfarne inflections admitted wholesale and unchanged, *ge habbas, hia ne magun fæsta*, &c., &c., the Rushworth becoming henceforth simply a copy of the Lindisfarne, with such variations as were common to scribes of independent judgment and taste in the period, many of these being indeed in the direction of making the version still more regularly northern. Thus, Mark xiv. 7:

*L. symble forðon ðorfordo gie habbað mið iuhi, and
†O. symble forðon ðarfo ge habbas iowih mið, and
L. mið-ðy gie welle gie magon him wool doe, meh
O. miððy go welle ge magun ðem wel doe, meh
L. uutedlice ne symble gie habbað
O. wutudlice ne symble habbas

Thus, we really have in the Rushworth version, three distinct portions: (1) Matthew, and John xviii. 1-3, in which Farman gives us his independent southern gloss; (2) Mark i. 1-ii. 15, in which he southerns the Lindisfarne; and (3) Owun's—all the rest—which is Lindisfarne almost pure and simple. I suppose Farman was, say a Midland man, who set himself to gloss the Gospels in his monastery; when he had got to the end of Matthew, the brotherhood was joined by Owun, a Northumbrian, who seeing Farman's work, told him of the Lindisfarne gloss already in existence, and offered to borrow the manuscript for him. On receiving it, Farman began to copy it in for his St. Mark, southernsing the grammar as he went on; but soon getting disgusted with this mere mechanical work which any copyist could do, he stopped short in the middle of a verse, and said, "See here, Owun, this is simple transcription which you can do as well as I; you go on copying this, and let me spend my time in some more original work." Owun obeyed, and simply followed the Lindisfarne through the rest of the book. Some such theory as this accounts satisfactorily for the whole circumstances. The three verses done by Farman again at the beginning of John xviii. are very remarkable. Here in the midst of Owun's servile following of the Lindisfarne, the old glosser takes up the pen for an instant, and gives us three verses of fine idiomatic Saxon, not like his Mark a southernsing of the Lindisfarne, but like his Matthew a totally independent version. I have spoken of Farman's dialect as *southern*; I use the word comparatively, *asequal to South-humbrian*. As to the precise dialect, or whether it be a dialect at all, that is a larger question than we can well discuss now. Farman, in the passage quoted above speaks of his *hafas* instead of *apas = hoaðs* for *oaths*; elsewhere he talks of his *eorta* instead of his *heorte* (Matt. vi. 21), and often says *eora* for *heora* (viii. 34; ix. 30, &c.) repeatedly showing a Midland—say a Leicester—man's contempt for his H's. The fact also that his variations from West Saxon grammar look northward, as in occasionally dropping infinitive -n, and using *hie* for *hig*, with sometimes *þe* for *se*, &c., seems to point in the same direction; but it would require a good deal of careful study, and something more perhaps, to satisfy one that the gloss, though by a Midland

man, is in a pure Midland dialect. This study may perhaps be given to Farman's Matthew, now that it is shown to be neither a copy of the Lindisfarne, nor cognate with it, nor even in the Northumbrian dialect.

JAMES A. H. MURRAY.

TWO NEW MSS. OF CICERO'S LETTERS AD FAMILIARES.

Hampstead: Nov. 16, 1874.

Dr. Franz Rühl, of Dorpat, who has been for some months exploring the chief MS. collections in this country, e.g., in the British Museum, at Lord Ashburnham's, and in the library of the late Sir Thomas Phillipps, at Cheltenham, has written an interesting letter to Ritschl, in which he gives an account of two hitherto uncollected MSS. of Cicero's Letters ad Familiares. It was the belief of Orelli, stated at considerable length in the preface to the third volume of his Cicero (1845), that the Medicean codex Plut. xlix. cod. ix., of the eleventh century, is the archetype of all the existing MSS. of Cicero's letters; the parent, not only of Petrarch's copy, but of all the other copies of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. This opinion, which is in opposition not only to the declared testimony of Ernesti, "codex meus ceteris antiquior est, seculi, ut uidetur, decimi aut undecimi," but of Wunder—a most judicial and cautious critic—is now proved to be false, by Dr. Rühl's examination of two Harleian codices, 2,682 and 2,773, in the British Museum.

The first of these is a parchment manuscript of the eleventh century, as Dr. Rühl and M. Lagarde, to whom he showed it, both pronounce independently. It contains, fol. 1^r-52^r, Ciceronis Epistulae ad Familiares, books ix.-xvi.; fol. 52^r, Ciceronis Epistulae ad Augustum Octavianum; fol. 53^r, Q. Cicero de petitione consulatus; this is followed by other works of Cicero, as well as (on fol. 135^r) by Fulgentius de Abstrusia Sermonibus. The letters have been corrected by two hands, one contemporaneous, the other of the fifteenth century. In some cases indices are prefixed to the books, in others not.

Dr. Rühl considers it beyond doubt that this Harleian MS. and the Medicean spring from the same archetype, but that each is independent of the other. Thus the letters xii. 22, *sqq.* are not divided, exactly as in M. The following passages will serve to show the value of H, as correcting, or helping to correct M:—

ix. 1. 2 *infidelissimis* H, *infidelissimas* M
diuidetur H, diuidetur M
ix. 2. 1 *iturred* H, *iterum* M
ix. 2. 2 *linguas* H, *linguis* M
ix. 2. 4 *intererit* H, *interit* M
ix. 8. 1 *tui* H, *sui* M
ix. 9. 2 *ulli* H, *nulli* M
ix. 11. 1 *eo* H, *ego* M.

In ix. 6. 2, where M has *ubique*, H has *utro-ubique*, as conjectured by Schütz; in ix. 15. 4, H has *ponor*, a conjecture of the same critic; ix. 22, 1, *usurpat*, as conjectured by Nobbe, not *usurpat*, as M; in ix. 2. 1, Baiter's reading *nobis non scriptissimus* for *nobis conscriptissimus* of M.

It would be interesting if H added any new letter to the existing collection. At the time when Dr. Rühl wrote to Ritschl he had not yet discovered any such additions; on the contrary, H omits some letters in M; e.g. ix. 18, and in x. 31. 4 the clause *Quod cum Lepidus—contrarium fuit*. On the other hand, H fills up no inconsiderable number of shorter lacunae in M; a matter of great importance, where the text is at once so obscure and so interesting as in these letters of Cicero's.

The other Harleian MS. is of the twelfth century. It contains books i.-viii. 9. 3 *puto etiam si nullam spem*. It has several lacunae, e.g. from i. 9. 20 *non solum praesenti* to ii. 1. 2 *dignitate et consecutus*. Books i. and ii. are undivided, and the succeeding books are numbered second, third, &c. Dr. Rühl considers this MS. from its somewhat inferior antiquity, to be considerably less valuable than M; to be, however, quite indepen-

* Lindisfarne. † Rushworth. ‡ West Saxon. ¶

* Lindisfarne.

† Owun.

dent of it, and absolutely indispensable for the future criticism of the text. He reserves more detailed judgment to another occasion.

R. ELLIS.

HERA BOOPIS AND ATHENE GLAUKOPIS.

Athens : Nov. 1, 1874.

In his learned article in the ACADEMY of January 10 last, Professor Max Müller writes: "Whatever *γλαυκῶπις* may mean, it cannot mean owl-headed, unless we suppose that Hera *βοῶπις* was represented as a cow-headed monster."

Although I cannot yet show an idol of Hera with a cow's head, I can at least prove now beyond any doubt that she had originally a cow's head, from which her Homeric epithet *βοῶπις* is derived. I extract the following from Th. Panofka's *Argos Panoptes*: "When in the battle between the gods and the giants the former took the shape of animals, Hera took the form of a white cow, 'nivea Saturnia vacca'" (Ovid, *Metam.* v. 330). We find a cow's head on the coins of the island of Samos, which had the most ancient temple of Hera, and was celebrated by its worship of this goddess (Mionnet, *Descr. des Méd. Ant.* pl. lxi. 6). We further find the cow's head on the coins of Messene, a Samian colony in Sicily (Millingen, *Ant. Coins of Greek Cities*, tab. ii. 12). The relation of Hera to the cow is further proved by the name *Εβόσια*, which was her epithet (Pausanias ii. 22, 1 and 2), the name of one of her nurses (Plut. qu., *Symp.* 3, 9, 2; *Et. M.* 388, 56), the name of the island in which she was brought up (Plut. fr. *Daedal.* 3). But in the name *Εβόσια* is contained the word *βοῦς*. Hera had in Corinth the epithet *Βούραια* (Paus. ii. 4, 7), in which the word *βοῦς* is likewise contained. White cows were sacrificed to Hera (Paus. ix. 3, 4), (Hesych. *ἀγανακτεῖσις*). The priestess rode on a team of two white bulls to the temple of the Argian Hera (Herodot. i. 31). Io, the daughter of Inachos, was changed by Hera into a cow (Lucian, *θεῶν διὰ* 3; Diod. Sic. i. 24, 25; Herodot. ii. 41). Io was priestess of Hera (Aesch. *Suppl.* 299; Apollod. ii. 1, 3), and is represented as the cow-goddess Hera (Creuzer, *Symbolik* ii. 576). The Egyptian goddess Isis was born in Argos, and was identified with the cow-shaped Io (Diod. Sic. i. 24, 25; Apollod. ii. 1, 3; Hygin. 145); she (Isis) was represented in Egypt as a female with cow-horns, like Io in Greece (Herodot. ii. 41). Hera is at all events identical with Isis, with Io, and with Demeter Mykalessia, who derived her epithet "the roaring" from her cow-shape, and had her temple at Mykalessos in Boeotia; she had as door-keeper Hercules, whose office it was to shut her sanctuary in the evening, and to open it again in the morning (Paus. ix. 19, 4). Thus, his service is identical with that of Argos, who in the morning unfastens the cow-shaped Io, and fastens her again in the evening to the olive tree (Ovid, *Metam.* i. 630), which was in the sacred grove of Mycenae, close to the *Ἑραῖον* (Apollod. ii. 1, 3). The Argian Hera had, as symbol of fertility, a pomegranate, which, as well as the flowers with which her crown was ornamented, gave her a tellurian character (Panofka, *Argos Panoptes*, tab. ii. 4; Cadalvène, *Recueil de Méd. Gr.* pl. iii. 1; Müller, *Denkm.* xxx. 132; Duc de Luynes, *Etudes Numismat.* pp. 22-25).

In the same way as in Boeotia the epithet Mykalessia, the roaring (a derivation from *μυρίων*), was given to Demeter on account of her cow-form, in the same way in the plain of Argos the name of *Μερίππαι* (a derivation from the same verb) was given to the city most celebrated for the cultus of Hera, and this can only be explained by her cow-form.

In consideration of this long series of proofs, certainly no one will for a moment doubt that Hera's Homeric epithet *βοῶπις* shows her to have been primitively represented with a cow's head. But a goddess with this attribute, a cow-headed monster, is not at all in harmony with the beauti-

ful forms in the Homeric songs; and besides, since the poet gives the epithet *βοῶπις* even (*Iliad* iii. 145 and xviii. 40) to mortal women, it is evident that long before his time people had ceased to represent Hera with a cow's head. But her epithet *βοῶπις*, which had been consecrated by the habit of ages, continued to be given to her; however, its primitive meaning had no doubt long been forgotten when Homer wrote, and he probably understands by *βοῶπις* nothing else than "large-eyed." Since the Ilios which Homer sings must have been destroyed more than 1,000 years before his time, I certainly should have found there numbers of cow-headed idols if Hera had had a cultus there; but such has not been the case. I have found there, it is true, three beautifully modelled cow-heads with long horns, on what I consider to be handles of vases (see tab. 149 no. 2952, and tab. 173 no. 3345 of my *Atlas*); and, though I believe they represent Hera, still I have no means to prove it.

From Hera's former cow's head was no doubt made her sacred cow, of which I found several examples in the depths of the Acropolis of Mycenae. At the same time I found there a lot of Hera-idols with two breasts, very compressed face, and a "polos" on the head. Thus it is evident that the metamorphosis of Hera's head had already taken place before the cyclopian walls of Mycenae were built.

Professor Max Müller writes: "Though we may be surprised at Homer assigning Athene as a patron-goddess to Ilios, so much, I suppose, is certain that when the poet (*Il.* vi. 311) said: *ἀνένει δὲ Παλλὰς Ἀθηνᾶ*, he did not mean that the idol of the goddess shook its owl's head in token of its non-acceptance of the prayers and offerings of the Trojan matrons assembled in her temple." I perfectly agree with the learned professor: Athene's owl's head must have been supplanted by a female head centuries before the time of Homer, but her epithet *γλαυκῶπις*, which had also been consecrated by the use of ages, continued to be applied to her. Its meaning had no doubt long since been forgotten when Homer wrote, and he probably understands by it "owl-eyed." It deserves particular attention that the poet gives this epithet exclusively to Athene, and never to mortal women.

Even the latest prehistoric ruins at Troy are by many centuries older than Homer, and thus it happens that from six feet below the surface down to the virgin soil, in a depth of fifty-three feet, we find there in all strata of remains numbers of *owl-headed idols* of bone or marble, or modelled on terra-cotta vases with all the attributes of the woman. These idol-vases invariably have two wings and a cover in the shape of a helmet, with the indication of the hair. From Athene's owl's head was made her sacred bird, the owl, which we do not find at Troy, for, when the last prehistoric city was abandoned, the transformation had not yet taken place, and the site must have been lying waste for centuries before Homer. It may have been for a short time inhabited at the epoch of the poet, for, as stated before, I have gathered there, just below the ruins of the Greek colony, about seventy pieces of pottery which are most decidedly neither prehistoric nor Greek. But the owl, as Athene's sacred bird, figures both on the coins of Sigeion and Athens, two cities celebrated for the worship of Athene, who was their patron-deity, and it is very probable that the Athenians brought the sacred bird from the Troad when they conquered Sigeion in 605 before Christ. It is true that the rare coins of Sigeion hitherto found are only of copper, and date from Alexandrine times. But no excavations have ever been made on the site of Sigeion, and I expect that the most insignificant excavation down to the virgin soil would yield there silver coins of a much earlier date.

The accumulation of ruins and rubbish averages in Sigeion 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet in thickness.

HENRY SCHLEIMANN.

The EDITOR will be glad if the Secretaries of Institutions, and other persons concerned, will lend their aid in making this Calendar as complete as possible.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

SATURDAY, Nov. 21, 3 p.m.	Crystal Palace Saturday Concert : Liszt's Second Concerto.
"	Saturday Popular Concert, St. James's Hall (Bilbow).
MONDAY, Nov. 23, 8 p.m.	Monday Popular Concert (St. James's Hall). Anthropological.
" 8.30 p.m.	Geographical.
TUESDAY, Nov. 24, 8 p.m.	Messrs. C. Douglas Fox and Francis Fox on "the Pennsylvania Railroad."
"	Society of Arts.
WEDNESDAY, Nov. 25, 8 p.m.	Royal Society of Literature : Mr. Percy Gardner on "a Greek Inscription found at Ilium Novum in the Troad."
"	Linnean : Professor Allman on "The Structure of <i>Stephanoceras mirabilis</i> "; Dr. M. T. Masters, "Monograph of Duironae."
"	Chemical : Papers by Messrs. G. H. Beckett and Dr. Wright, Messrs. W. K. Clifford, W. H. Perkins, A. H. Church, and Dr. Stenhouse.
" 8.30 p.m.	Royal.
FRIDAY, Nov. 27, 1 p.m.	Sale by Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge of the second portion of the Howard Collection.
" 8 p.m.	Quekett Club : Mr. J. E. Ingpen on "Personal Equation with reference to Microscopy."

SCIENCE.

The Hydraulics of Great Rivers: the Paraná, the Uruguay, and the La Plata Estuary. By J. J. Revy. (London: E. & F. N. Spon, 1874.)

ENGLISH engineers have been engaged during the last quarter of a century, and are likely to be engaged for some time to come, in the construction of some of the largest hydraulic works in the world. There are large irrigation canals in Italy, the birthplace of hydraulic science, but they are small compared with the irrigation works of India. In India also there are great rivers to be embanked and regulated and rendered navigable. In all these works, a knowledge of the laws of fluid-motion is of very great importance, and it is not to our national credit, therefore, that the chief experimental researches in hydraulics are due to continental engineers, and that hydraulic theory has been more amply developed abroad than at home. The treatise named above is a very important contribution to hydraulic science, and it shows its author to be fully alive to the need of observing and recording the facts out of which, some day, a true theory of fluid-motion may be constructed. It contains an account of surveys, undertaken at the expense of the Argentine Confederation, and, we believe, under the direction of the well-known English engineer, Mr. Bateman. These surveys were carried out by Mr. Revy, who appears to have prepared before leaving England to make observations on the velocity of the currents of the great rivers, by methods and instruments partially new and likely to afford results of very great accuracy. He appears to be a very competent and sagacious observer, and he discusses his results with great critical ability, and fully brings out their bearing on the theories of fluid-motion. Without proposing any new theory, he states the points in which his results seem to be at variance with accepted rules. His results do not appear to us to be so much at

variance with existing knowledge as to Mr. Revy. He sometimes puts forward crude rules-of-thumb (that the mean velocity of a stream is eight-tenths of the greatest surface velocity, for instance) as accepted laws of hydraulics, and he has no difficulty in showing that such rules will not fit his observations. It is well understood since the experiments of Darcy that, in similar channels, the ratio of the mean and surface velocity varies with the absolute magnitude of the channel and with the roughness of its surface, though no very satisfactory rule for determining the ratio can be given till the general theory of fluid flow is more perfect. If, indeed, the law of the variation of velocity at different depths in a stream, which Mr. Revy derives from his observations, could be accepted as the exact law, then his results are of the highest importance, for they contain a key to the exact solution of the problem of fluid flow. But if, as we suspect is the case, Mr. Revy has generalised from too small a basis of fact, and the law which he states is only an approximation to the truth—then, though still important, Mr. Revy's researches must be ranked with those of his predecessors, and must carry weight proportional to their number, and to the care and skill of the observer. Mr. Revy's observations are likely to take a high rank for accuracy, but those which have a direct bearing on hydraulic theory are certainly not numerous; and, where the facts are complex and difficult to observe, it is of the greatest importance to check observations by repeating them.

The following description of the great rivers is abbreviated from the interesting and graphic account given by Mr. Revy. The La Plata, or so-called river Plate, is a large estuary of the South Atlantic, from which the sea water is continually displaced by the waters of the Paraná and Uruguay. These rivers keep it filled with fresh water, and hence may have arisen the custom of calling it a river. It has, however, no drainage area of its own, and is an immense shallow basin, about 125 miles in length, twenty-three miles in width at its narrowest part, and averaging three fathoms in depth. In ancient times the estuary extended 200 miles further into the country, and terminated at Diamante, where now the delta of the Paraná commences. Concerning this delta, Mr. Revy gives much useful information. The deposit of silt from the waters of the Paraná takes place, chiefly, in still water. In the Plata, subject to the Atlantic tides, there is still water, lasting in the upper part of the estuary for several hours, twice in the day. Deposit takes place, uniformly over the whole area, so long as the current ceases. With the re-establishment of the current scouring action begins, the scour being very unequal in different parts. Along the deep river channels the scour maintains the original depth; in other parts the scour does not remove the whole of the deposit, and the delta regularly augments. When at any part the water is shallow enough to permit the growth of reeds, the scouring action is almost completely arrested, and the shallow bank rapidly becomes an island.

Towards the upper end of the Plata estuary there enter the two great branches of the Paraná, the Paraná de las Palmas, and the Paraná Guazu, branches enclosing between them a deltaic island eighty miles in length. The Palmas is a deep and regular channel, 1,200 feet in width where Mr. Revy's section was taken, and fifty feet in depth. Its banks, raised only about a couple of feet above the river surface, are covered with long grass, six to twelve feet in height, and occasionally with forests of "Seibo." Towards its head Mr. Revy established a station, and there discovered that the tides of the Plata were propagated along the whole extent of the Palmas. There was a regular tidal rise and fall of the water at a distance of 70 miles from the mouth of the Palmas, and once, in the course of three days' observations, the current of the river was actually reversed, and there was a slight but perceptible flow, upwards, from the Plata. The wave travels from Buenos Ayres to the station on the Palmas, a distance of nearly 90 miles, in five and a half to four and a half hours.

Of the scenery on the other branch, the Paraná Guazu, in its deltaic part, Mr. Revy gives the following description:—

"The scenery in the lower reaches of the delta is fine, and there is a charm and grandeur in the profound stillness of these wild regions. So smooth is the surface of the Paraná, on a calm day, that we are inclined to call it a lake rather than a river. The banks in the lower reaches of the delta are covered with a thick forest of a peculiar tree called 'Seibo.' This tree is not unlike an oak deficient of leaves, having numerous short branches of very crooked growth; and it would be difficult to find a straight piece of only 10 feet in length, either in the trunk or branches of a tree 60 feet in height. It is rather short of foliage, the leaf being not unlike those of laurels; in the spring its flowers are as numerous as the leaves, and of a brilliant crimson, each flower of the size of a leaf; and the forest looks a mixture of dark green and bright crimson, certainly beautiful to behold."

The birds near the margin of the stream are few. A short distance inland the islands abound with ducks, geese, swans, turkeys, storks, cranes, snipe, &c., all so tame that they may be closely approached. At 98 miles from the mouth, the true mainland first approaches the right bank of the stream, and here is the town of St. Pedro, separated from the river by a lagoon, having an area of 300 acres, which some day will be converted into a fine harbour. At 170 miles from the mouth of the Paraná, near Rosario, is the straight reach of the river, where Mr. Revy's most important observations were made. The river here rises in flood about twelve feet, and the flood level is maintained for three months. There are, however, times when the flood level is maintained for twelve months, or even for two years. The highest floods rise about twenty-four feet above low water. During these, the whole delta is submerged, and the river forms a sheet of water thirty or forty miles in width. At 253 miles from the mouth, the termination of the delta is reached, and the mainland forms for the first time both banks of the stream. At 447 miles is the Alexandra Colony, where, amongst tigers and hostile Indians, 500 hardy Europeans, the pioneers

of their race, have established steam flour-mills and thrashing-machines. At 666 miles, the Paraguay falls into the Paraná, a fine river navigable for a thousand miles. Above the confluence of the streams, the territory of the ancient missions borders the Paraná. Mr. Revy gives an interesting account of these missions, now destroyed. When most prosperous, the population of the missions included about 100,000 Guarani Indians, under the absolute government of a few Jesuits of French, German, and English extraction; all good men, and well educated. They were nominally under the Spanish crown, but Spain surrendered them to Portugal in 1750. The Jesuits were expelled from the missions soon after the fall of their order in Europe. The missions then came under the rule of Spanish governors and Franciscan monks. From that time the missions rapidly declined. In 1817, the Portuguese governor of Rio Grande surprised the Guarani, and destroyed everything in the missions by fire and sword.

The Uruguay, which also falls into the Plata, is a river of a very different kind. During low water the Uruguay is comparatively insignificant. Mr. Revy ascertained that in December the whole volume of its waters is confined within a rocky channel, near Salto, called the "Corralito;" the width of the stream is then 145 feet, and its depth 6 feet. But in flood, especially in the great floods of September and October, it rises 45 or 50 feet above ordinary low water, the flood rising often 3 feet in a day. "The Paraná is the type of a truly great river. The Uruguay represents a mighty torrent of extraordinary dimensions."

Mr. Revy's most important observations are those on the velocity of the currents. They were all made with an instrument known as Woltmann's mill, consisting of a small screw-propeller driving a counting apparatus. In the construction of the instruments which he used, Mr. Revy introduced several ingenious improvements, of which the most important appears to us to be, the enclosing of the counting apparatus in a casing filled with pure water. This entirely prevents the access of particles of grit to the counting arrangement. There is no doubt that Mr. Revy selected the best instrument for his special researches, and he is so convinced of the delicacy of his improved instrument, that he thinks it will register the velocity of currents moving at one-tenth of a foot per second. There is great difficulty in measuring the velocity of slow currents, and it is much to be desired that experiments should be made with the instrument, to ascertain the limits within which it can be trusted.

It does not appear that even the experiments by which Mr. Revy determined the constants for his instrument were very numerous or very consistent, and, in the absence of further information, we are not wholly convinced of the trustworthiness of such an instrument at velocities much below one foot per second. Mr. Revy obtains velocities, from the numbers given by the counter of the instrument, by means of a formula of the form $v=a+\beta n$. Now, on theoretical grounds, this is not the most probable form of the equation for this current

meter. With the meters hitherto used, it has been shown that it is not worth while to adopt a more complex equation. But, if the modified meter is as accurate as Mr. Revy believes, it would be very desirable to repeat the investigations of Lahmeyer and Baumgarten, with a view of determining whether a formula of a different form was not more accurate.

Mr. Revy expends a good deal of argument in showing that the current meter gives the velocity of streams much more accurately than floats. He naively admits that he had a decided prejudice against the use of floats. "We had a natural aversion to floats as a means to determine the currents of a river. It appeared to us a rough and ready way to observe currents." Mr. Revy's arguments against floats are somewhat theoretical, and we cannot help thinking that his aversion to floats is due, in some degree, to a wish to find an explanation for the fact that the extensive experiments on the Mississippi, which were made with floats, give results not quite consistent with his own. However this may be, and it being admitted that the current meter will give truer results than could be obtained by floats, *within the range of velocities for which it is applicable*, observations by floats are extremely useful to control other observations. If floats are not quite so accurate as other more complex instruments, at the same time they give the velocities of the currents directly, without the intervention of formulas and constants, and without liability to error from small derangements of mechanism.

The rivers on which Mr. Revy's observations were made were so large as to render his observations in some respects unique. In rivers of such immense width, we approach a condition often assumed in theoretical investigations, that, namely, of a stream of unlimited width, in which there is friction at the bottom, but in which the friction of the sides becomes insensible. We should bear this in mind in considering Mr. Revy's results.

The chief results of interest arrived at by Mr. Revy are these:—(1) The maximum velocity is *at* and not *below* the surface. In the Mississippi observations the maximum velocity was always found below the surface; in this they are completely at one with the experiments of Bazin, on open channels of small size, which were not made by floats, but by means of an instrument even more accurate than Mr. Revy's meter. Mr. Revy argues that the maximum current must be at the maximum distance from the retarding force acting at the bottom, and he puts on one side, as insignificant, the resistance of the air in contact with the surface. In this he is probably right, but he neglects to consider another cause which may modify and reduce the surface velocity. At the surface the particles of water have greater freedom of lateral motion than anywhere else, and the surface of the stream at right angles to its direction of motion is not level. Hence, there is a cause tending to produce a lateral mixing of the faster moving particles from the centre and the slower moving particles at the sides of the stream. It may be that in the great rivers this produces an insensibly small effect, but in that case the

observations on the Mississippi must be assumed to be erroneous. (2) The surface velocities at different points in the breadth of the stream are simply proportional to the depths of water at those points. This is certainly a very remarkable law, and was discovered almost entirely from observations on the Rosario section of the Paraná. We give the results of Mr. Revy's observations there in his own words:—

"If we measure the distances which the surface currents at the locality of the Rosario section travel in $13\frac{1}{2}$ seconds, anywhere across the line of section, these distances passed over by the current at any point are also the depths (of the river) at those points."

In the Uruguay "the currents reproduced their corresponding depths in $5\frac{1}{4}$ seconds." The chief point here is whether Mr. Revy's law is exact or only approximate. (3) The most remarkable result of the observations, however, is probably that which relates to the velocity of the stream at different depths. In previous researches the relation between the surface and subsurface velocities has been found to be somewhat complex, requiring an equation of the second degree at least to express it. According to Mr. Revy, however, the relation is the simplest possible. If we imagine a series of particles, occupying at any instant a vertical line in the stream, then, according to Mr. Revy, those particles, after a short interval of time, during which they have moved with varying velocities, will still occupy a straight line inclined to the horizon. Hence the velocities at any points, in the same vertical line, are proportional to the distances of those points from a point somewhere below the bottom of the river. Or, if a is the height of any fluid filament above the bottom of the river, its velocity is proportional to $a + x$ where a is a constant. We can offer no opinion at present as to this singular result, except that it is very desirable that it should be confirmed by further researches. That Mr. Revy has assumed a formula of the same kind, in reducing the revolutions of his current meter to velocities, might of itself give rise to a result of this kind, and hence the desirability of some independent means of checking the observations of the meter. One check of this kind Mr. Revy has himself applied. His method of obtaining the average velocity, which is perfectly novel and very ingenious, supplies, to some extent, a check on the observations at specific depths.

In conclusion a word of praise must be given to the admirable way in which Mr. Revy has represented his results graphically. These representations are reproduced by means of very admirable lithographs.

W. CAWTHORNE UNWIN.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Variation in the Length of the Sidereal Day.—In the *American Journal of Science* for September is given an important paper, by Professor Simon Newcomb, on the possible variability of the earth's axial rotation, with a discussion of M. Glaserapp's investigation of eclipses of Jupiter's first satellite as affected by such a variation in the length of the day. From his researches on the lunar theory, Professor Newcomb had been led to the conclusion that certain inequalities of long period must be accounted for in one of three

ways: Either (1) there are inequalities in the motion of the moon due to the gravitation of the sun and planets, which have hitherto eluded mathematical computation; or (2) the motion of the moon is affected by the action of some other forces than that of gravitation; or (3) the time of the earth's rotation on its axis, and, therefore, the length of its sidereal day, is subject to irregular variations of long period. The second hypothesis having been shown to be improbable, our choice lies between (1) and (3).

Now, evidently a variation in the length of the day would affect Jupiter's satellites in the same way as it does our moon; and, on account of its rapid motion, this effect would be most readily detected by eclipses of the first satellite. At Professor Newcomb's request, M. Glaserapp, of the Pulkowa Observatory, has carefully reduced all published observations of such eclipses from 1848 to 1873, making allowance for the different dimensions of object-glasses, and examined how far the supposition that the earth had lost eleven seconds on uniform time from 1844 to 1862, and had regained that amount in the next eight years, so that earth time was again right in 1870, would reconcile the observed times with those given by the best tables (Damoiseau's). The result is not favourable to this hypothesis, as the discordances are reduced by almost inappreciable amounts; and when M. Glaserapp attempts to find the error of earth time by the inverse process of making the observed times agree with the predicted as closely as circumstances would permit, he finds very different results, according as the disappearance or reappearance of the satellite was observed, and the deduced variation in the earth's rate of rotation is only half that required by Professor Newcomb's hypothesis.

After applying some corrections to Hansen's Lunar Tables, which reduce the amount by which earth time appears to be slow to $6\cdot3$ at its maximum in 1862, Professor Newcomb, by a somewhat different treatment of the eclipses of the first satellite, makes a final attempt to reconcile the tables with observation, but without success. The existing theory of Jupiter's satellites appears to be too defective for such an investigation.

It may be remarked, that to explain an anomaly in the moon's motion by an anomaly in the earth's rotation is merely to defer the difficulty without removing it, while there are other discordances, represented by Hansen's empirical term depending on the action of Venus (which both Delaunay and Newcomb find by theory to be insensible), which seem to show that the mathematical theory of the moon's motion, especially where terms of long period are concerned, is far from complete.

The August Meteor Shower.—In the *Bullettino Meteorologico dell'Osservatorio del Collegio Romano* P. Ferrari gives an account of the meteors radiating from Perseus, which were observed at Rome, Casale and Alessandria, from August 8 to 12, no fewer than 710 having been seen on August 10, between 9 P.M. and 3 A.M., the greatest number noted in one hour being 158, or about two and a half per minute. The meteors seem to have been travelling in slightly different directions, but all included within a triangular space marked out nearly by the three stars α Persei, α Cassiopeiae, and β Cassiopeiae. It is in the discussion of the exact form and dimensions of such radiant spaces, and their relation to the parent comet, that the interest of meteor observations now centres.

Spectroscopic observations of fifty of the meteors were made by Signor Arcimis di Cadice, the chief result being to show the presence of incandescent sodium vapour in the train; the spectrum of the meteor itself was generally continuous, but deficient in violet rays. This would seem to indicate a solid body at a temperature slightly below white heat. A meteorite observed on the same night (August 10) showed absorption lines on a continuous spectrum.

A Group of Meteorites.—Professor Tacchini, in the *Memorie de' Spettroscopisti Italiani*, describes

a curious group of meteorites which he observed on the evening of July 24. Three meteors as large as Jupiter were seen at first, and some seconds afterwards a fourth appeared suddenly; they moved at the same rate in parallel directions, and left brilliant trains behind them.

The Sun's Parallax.—Dr. Galle has reduced forty-three observations of the small planet Flora, as compared with neighbouring stars, made at three southern and nine northern observatories for determination of the sun's parallax, in accordance with a suggestion made by him last year. Although the parallax of the planet Flora is only about one-third of that of Mars when nearest to us, the observation of a small point of light is so much more accurate than that of a planetary disk that Dr. Galle expected to get valuable results from corresponding measures made in the two hemispheres, though, of course, the approaching transit of Venus, if successfully observed, will give a far more trustworthy determination. From the whole forty-three measures of Flora Dr. Galle finds a parallax of $8''\cdot923$, striking out eight observations which differ more than $1''$ from the mean, he gets $8''\cdot907$; striking out thirteen which differ more than $0''\cdot75$, he obtains $8''\cdot858$, the value which he considers most probable. If all the measures which differ more than $0''\cdot5$ from the mean are rejected, reducing the number used to twenty-one, the value $8''\cdot851$ is obtained, while from eleven observations which show a discordance of less than $0''\cdot25$ a parallax of $8''\cdot841$ results. As no reason whatever is given for rejecting the discordant observations, and as no criterion is fixed, the process seems to be somewhat arbitrary, and the close agreement of the adopted value $8''\cdot858$ with Leverrier's indirect determination from the earth's action on Venus and Mars, and with other direct results obtained in recent times, must be looked upon as accidental. The investigation, however, shows, as Dr. Galle points out, that the value found is probably true within a few hundredths of a second, which is in itself a satisfactory result of the application of this new method. Dr. Galle hopes to obtain still more accurate results from observations of one of the fainter minor planets, Flora being rather too bright for accurate bisection with a spider line.

Measures of Sirius and its Companion.—From some recent observations of the minute star about which Sirius appears to be revolving, Mr. Wilson, of Rugby, has deduced a period of revolution of 200 years in an orbit fifty times that of the earth, which would make the sum of the masses of Sirius and its companion rather more than three times that of the sun, whilst the light of the star is more than 200 times that of our sun. The disproportion in brightness between Sirius and its faint companion appears to be the result of the high temperature of the former, and not of any great difference in size, since from the observed proper motions of Sirius in space, the centre of gravity about which both stars revolve is found to be one-third of the distance from Sirius to its companion, which latter would therefore appear to have a mass half that of Sirius, or about equal to that of our sun. In all this there is much uncertainty, Auwers having found for Sirius a period of fifty years, and a mass twelve times that of the sun, and very liberal allowance must be made for errors of observation, caused by the overpowering light of the bright star.

The Parallax of Groombridge 1830.—In a paper communicated to the Academy of Sciences of Berlin, Dr. Auwers has discussed Johnson's observations with the Oxford heliometer of the star Groombridge 1830, which on account of its large proper motion was considered likely to have a large annual parallax. Johnson, however, found that though its parallax appeared to be greater by about three-tenths of a second than that of one star near it, it was less than that of another star, from which its angular distance was measured,

by nearly the same quantity, a result which would indicate, if the observations could be relied on, that the star Groombridge 1830 was at such a distance from us that light would take not more than ten years to reach us from the star, while from the second star above referred to it would take less than five years; but the most probable conclusion would be that the measures were affected by such errors that no certain inference could be drawn as to the parallax except that it was very small. With the view of eliminating these errors if possible, Dr. Auwers has undertaken a fresh reduction of Johnson's observations, with an elaborate discussion of the probable errors, and of the effect of a change in the magnifying power from 200 to 150 made in the course of the observations. The net result of the whole investigation is substantially to confirm Johnson's deductions from his observations, though these differ much from the results of other observers, who have found a parallax of a tenth of a second, corresponding to a distance which would be traversed by light in some thirty years. Astronomers can hardly answer for such a quantity, but, adopting this matter provisionally, the star would be moving in space at the enormous rate of half a million of miles an hour, or eight times the velocity of the earth in its orbit.

Micrometrical Observations of 500 Nebulae.—When attention was first directed to the nebulae, the object was rather to determine the laws of their distribution and their physical characteristics than to attempt to fix their positions accurately, though the latter is a matter of great importance to our knowledge of these strange objects, as by such observations we may hope in time to determine their proper motions, and thus to get a notion of their probable distance, even if we cannot find it directly by observations for parallax. This work Dr. Schultz of Upsala has taken up, and now presents the results of more than eleven years of observation in a memoir, of which he has had a version printed in English.

The advance in point of accuracy made by Dr. Schultz is very marked, and shows that the uncertainty inherent in the observation of these objects has been very much over-estimated. Thus, while Sir W. Herschel's observations are subject to a probable error of $1'$ or $2'$, which in Sir J. Herschel's and D'Arrest's large catalogues is reduced to $20''$, and in smaller catalogues by D'Arrest and Laugier to $6''$, the results in this memoir are probably true to $1''$, even when the nebula has only been observed on a single evening. This is a great improvement on any previous catalogue, one of the best of which, that of Schönfeld, containing 235 nebulae, is liable to errors of $2''$ or $3''$, whilst the probable error of Dr. Schultz's results is less than three times that of a meridian observation of a star with a modern transit circle.

The instrument used by Dr. Schultz was the Upsala thirteen feet refractor, with which over 12,000 individual measures were made from 1863 to 1874, notwithstanding great interruption to the observations of such faint objects from twilight in summer, and the aurora in winter, not to mention the moon. In fact, Dr. Schultz concludes that Upsala is about the worst location possible for an observatory, and this assertion is borne out by the fact that he was only able to get observations on 400 nights altogether, or thirty-five a year on the average, and these included many unfavourable evenings. On account of this climatic difficulty the work is not yet complete, the positions of the stars used for comparison with the nebulae not having been in all cases accurately determined, so that the definitive positions of the nebulae are not given, but only their places as referred to these comparison stars. All the measures were made with the parallel line micrometer.

Though the catalogue is not as extensive as Dr. Schultz originally hoped to make it, yet it is by far the largest in which accuracy of the positions has been aimed at, and forms a really fundamental catalogue which only needs enlarging.

DR. ASCHERSON has recently published (*Botanische Zeitung*, pp. 609-647) a preliminary report on the botanical results of Rohlfs' expedition for the exploration of the Libyan desert. The geography of the district traversed has already been described in this journal. Respecting the vegetation we are told that it is the most barren and desolate part visited by Rohlfs in all his travels in the Sahara. In some places there is an almost absolute absence of vegetation, and the whole number of species of plants collected in the desert proper, that is to say, at least an hour's journey from either of the oases, was thirty-two, belonging to fourteen different orders. With the exception of three, all of them have been determined. One of the undetermined is perhaps a new species of *Zygophyllum*, and the affinities of the others are not indicated; but it seems highly probable that not a single new species was discovered. This is a remarkable fact, but still not very surprising when we consider the geographical range, or area of distribution, of most of the desert plants. Twelve of the plants named were found only in one place, and most of these were represented by few individuals, hence they constitute no striking feature of the general flora of the desert. *Fagonia arabica* and *Aristida plumosa* were exceedingly common, reappearing with wearisome monotony. It is scarcely necessary to mention that most desert plants assume a habit and peculiar development of their organs adapted to the conditions under which they exist. The peculiarities consist in a dense habit of growth, a development of spines, and a suppression of leaves or their transformation into fleshy organs. We may add a few words respecting the general distribution of the plants found by Ascherson. In the first place, desert plants generally, i.e. those of the Great Sahara, and the deserts of Arabia and Western Asia, have mostly a considerable range of distribution. Thus, twenty-two of the species collected by Ascherson extend to Asia, in addition to their distribution in Africa, and many of them to Beloochistan, Afghanistan, Turkestan, and even farther to the north-east. Two extend to the Canary Islands, and two to the north shore of the Mediterranean. An extreme example is furnished by *Fagonia cretica* (including *F. arabica* and other synonyms), which occurs throughout the warmer parts of Asia, South Africa, the western side of North and South America, the Canary Islands, and South Europe. The leaves of the grasses mentioned above are rigid and sharp-pointed. Some of the shrubby inhabitants of the desert, notably *Tamarix*, possess the power of emitting roots from any part of the stem, and as the shifting sands drift between them, they usually form hillocks. Dr. Ascherson states that they are frequently from ten to sixteen feet high. Near the oases plants become more numerous, and the oases themselves are in most cases very carefully cultivated.

Wheat and barley are grown in winter, and rice and durra (*Sorghum vulgare*) in summer, with intermediate crops of clover, cotton and indigo. The gardens are enclosed with mud walls, topped with a network of the leaves of the date palm or the formidably armed branches of *Acacia nilotica*, or fenced in with the interwoven branches of *Acacia*, *Capparis*, &c. The most important fruit cultivated in the Libyan oases is the date, and it is said to be far superior in flavour to the variety grown in the Nile valley. Oranges and lemons of excellent quality, also apricots, and in smaller quantity peaches, apples, figs, sycomore figs, plums, mulberries, pomegranates, carobs, Indian figs, nabak (*Ziziphus Spina-Christi*), muchet (*Cordia Myxa*), and grapes are grown. The principal timber tree is *Acacia nilotica* (referred to *A. arabica* in Oliver's *Flora of Tropical Africa*). Dr. Ascherson measured one at Balat which was nearly eighteen feet in circumference, and which he supposes to be the same tree measured by Edmonston in 1819. Among useful herbaceous plants cultivated we may note—cummin, rape-seed,

radish, mallow (*Malva parviflora*), bammia (*Abelmoschus esculentus*), meluchia (*Corchorus trilocularis*), lupins, lucern, peas, beans, wild cucumbers, water-melons, coriander (as a vegetable !), tomatoes, egg-plant, &c. &c. Ornamental plants, with the exception of a few roses in the gardens of the rich, are unknown in the oases. As a special mark of distinction a rose was presented to Rohlfis by the Scheik el Beled on the occasion of his leave-taking at Dghakel.

The wild vegetation of the oases exceeded expectations. Ninety-two species were found in Farafreh, 189 in Dghakel, and Dr. Schweinfurth collected 225 in Khargeh. It would take us too far to enumerate beyond a few of the more remarkable plants. Naturally a great many of them are weeds of cultivation, and would disappear if cultivation were discontinued. A few new species were discovered, but they are closely allied to familiar forms. Characteristic plants are *Citrullus Coccynthis*, *Calotropis procera*, *Capparis aegyptiaca*, *Sedada decidua*, *Prosopis Stephaniana*, *Cassia obovata*, &c., as well as most of the plants found in the actual desert. *Conyza Bovei*, hitherto only reported from Sinai and Abyssinia, was discovered; and the true *Cyperus Mundii* was also found. Two new mosses, *Bryum Aschersonii*, C. Müll., and *B. Korbianum*, C. M., were detected near Dghakel; and three new species were found in the vicinity of Sioot, viz., *Weissia Rohlfisiana*, *Bryum Remelei*, and *Entostodon curvioculatus*, C. M.

Dr. Ascherson gives complete lists of all the plants observed in each of the oases, with indications of their distribution, &c., and concludes with some interesting remarks on the fall and renewal of the leaves of deciduous trees. It is worthy of note that he discovered fruits of *Balanites aegyptiacum* in some of the tombs near Dghakel, as the same fruit occurred amongst others sent to Kew from Thebes.

THE fact that the National Horticultural Establishment at Kew is actively engaged, among other things, in propagating the new Liberian coffee plant, and sending it to various parts of the Empire where coffee is cultivated, to replace the variety commonly grown, is perhaps of more commercial than scientific interest. The demand for this new variety appears to depend more upon its vigorous constitution than its superiority in other respects, though it is described as excelling the old variety both in fertility and flavour. But the original cause of this demand is of the utmost interest to the physiologist and the enquirer into the laws governing the appearance and disappearance of certain forms of vegetable life. We are constantly hearing complaints from the vineyards and orange orchards of Europe, as well as from the coffee plantations, &c., of the tropics, of the losses attributable to an enfeebled constitution, the result of long cultivation and in-breeding, as it were, of the same varieties. All the facts seem to indicate that races of plants, like races of animals, gradually die out, and more rapidly under certain conditions. The Liberian coffee is a variety of the same species as the common coffee; and the North American vines, that suffer very little, or not at all, from the attacks of the *Phylloxera*, are closely allied to the European species.

ONE of the most interesting of recent additions to the excellent botanical museum at Kew is a series of sections of the tuberous rootstocks of the remarkable Rubiaceous epiphytical genera, *Myrmecodia* and *Hydnophytum*. Both genera have long been imperfectly known from the figures in the *Herbarium Amboinense* of Rumphius, and also the peculiarity that the tuberous thalloid base, or rootstock, serves as a nest for ants; but late explorations in the Pacific islands and tropical Australia have furnished more complete materials and revived the curiosity of naturalists. Since the publication of Darwin's works, botanists have been paying far more attention to the innumerable

modifications of the various organs of plants, and their adaptations to certain ends. The investigation of this class of biological phenomena is of the most attractive, and we believe Mr. James Britten, of the British Museum, is at the present time engaged upon a paper treating not only of the genera mentioned, but also of the Melastomaceous plants whose leaves are provided with vesicles at the base, the hollow-stemmed *Cecropia* and *Triplaris*, and the *Acacias* with hollow stipular spines, all of which afford shelter to different species of the Formicidae. We look forward with much interest to the appearance of the paper in question, as the little known to naturalists on this subject is scattered about in various books of travel.

BOTANISTS will be pleased to learn that the plants of Gay's herbarium, presented to the national collection at Kew by Dr. Hooker, are now nearly all incorporated and available for use. This collection is extremely rich in European species, and many curious cultivated plants, in which Kew was relatively poor.

WE understand that Mr. Melliss' work on the natural history of St. Helena is rapidly approaching completion. It is not to be of a purely scientific character; in fact, it will be adapted to the demands of the general reader. Nevertheless, the peculiarities of the flora, &c. will not be neglected. Nearly all of the indigenous plants are absolutely endemic, and some of them are now only known in the dried state, while others are fast disappearing and must soon become extinct. Plates will be given of the endemic species. It is satisfactory to know that the Kew Herbarium contains a tolerably good series of specimens of most of these interesting plants that have come to the knowledge of botanists; but Dr. Hooker (*Insular Floras*, p. 7) computes that probably a hundred peculiar species were extirpated before botanists had an opportunity of investigating the vegetable products of the island.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES.

LINNEAN SOCIETY (Thursday, November 5).

G. J. ALLMAN, M.D., President, in the Chair. Mr. J. G. Baker followed up his previous papers on the sub-orders Liliaceae and Tulipeae of the Liliaceae by a very elaborate treatise on the sub-order Asparagaceae and the remaining small groups referred by him to the Liliaceae. Under this order Mr. Baker includes the Gilliesiaceae, Melanthiaceae, Trilliaceae, Roxburghiaceae, &c., of other authors, a course that is scarcely so convenient for practical purposes as a separation into smaller orders, and one that many botanists will probably not accept. Doubtless there is some difficulty in assigning the limits of the smaller groups as independent orders. The Smilaceae are not associated with the Liliaceae by Mr. Baker, as is done by some botanists. On the other hand, Lindley's class of Dictyogens cannot be maintained. One of the distinguishing characters of the Liliaceae and Smilaceae is in the ovules, and this holds good for all that have been examined: in the former they are anatropous and in the latter orthotropous. The curious tribe of Aspidistreæ having a mushroom-like stigma, completely shutting in the stamens, which are sessile at the base of the perianth, puzzled Mr. Baker as to the manner in which impregnation is effected. Some of these plants are quite hardy in this country, and, therefore, this point might easily be investigated.

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (Friday, Nov. 13).

At the first meeting of the session, which was held in the new apartments in Burlington House, Professor Adams, President, in the Chair, Sir George Airy gave an account of the present state of the Transit of Venus enterprise. He began by calling attention to the expedition equipped on such a splendid scale by Lord Lindsay for obser-

vation at the Mauritius; and then remarking that no change whatever had been made in the original plan, although assertions to the contrary have more than once been made, gave a statement of what was known of the proceedings of the various parties at the five stations selected by Great Britain—viz. Egypt, the Sandwich Islands, Rodriguez, New Zealand, and Kerguelen Island.

In Egypt the chief station is to be Cairo, where Captain Ord Browne, R.A., is quartered, with Thebes as a subsidiary station for the photo-heliograph under Captain Abney's management, Mr. Hunter being charged with the telegraphic arrangements at Alexandria and Suez, for determining by telegraph the longitude of Cairo referred to Greenwich, and of Aden referred to Cairo. Thanks to the good offices of Lord Derby, the Khedive has shown the greatest attention to the party, and has placed the railways and telegraphs at their disposal, besides lending a government steamer for the transport of Captain Abney's detachment to Thebes, and, what is perhaps of equal importance, providing a guard for the protection of the instruments. If all goes well, it is hoped that a telegram will be received at Greenwich before sunrise of December 9, announcing the success of the Egyptian expedition.

With regard to the Sandwich Isles, the only information received as yet is, that the party had arrived safely, and been presented to his Majesty the King, who had assigned Captain Tupman a plot of ground on which the instruments for the principal station were being erected. The auxiliary stations would be at Hawaii and Niihau, the two extreme islands of the group, where Professor Forbes and Mr. Johnson are to be located respectively.

At Rodriguez, Lieutenant Neate, R.N., has overcome the difficulties of landing delicate, though heavy instruments over a coral reef, and has co-operated with Mr. Gill, Lord Lindsay's able assistant at the Mauritius, in determining the difference of longitudes of their stations by means of Lord Lindsay's forty-three chronometers, which have been twice carried backwards and forwards between the two islands by Commander Wharton, of H.M.S. *Shearwater*. Of the New Zealand expedition nothing has been heard, except that their ship, the *Merope*, had arrived safely. The Kerguelen party, under Father Perry's charge, have not been quite so fortunate as the others, having been detained two months at the Cape by the break-down of the ship which was to carry them on; however, they got off eventually on September 18, but in consequence of this delay the Americans and Germans would be first in the field, and thus get the first choice of stations. In order that news of the observations of the transit may be received as soon as possible in this country from Kerguelen's Island, Messrs. Green have very liberally offered to let one of their ships call on the way to Australia, though the island is somewhat out of the usual track. A telegram can then be sent from Melbourne. In conclusion, Sir George Airy pointed out the great importance of accurate determinations of longitude, even where both ingress and egress would be observed, and corrected some erroneous opinions which had been published on this point. Remarking that it was not more than an even chance that the weather would be fine at a particular station for any definite observation, according to the experience both of M. Struve and himself, he pointed out that it was fifteen to one against its being fine both for ingress and egress at each of two selected stations, while it was an even chance that ingress would be observed at both stations, or that egress would be similarly observed. That is to say, the chance of getting useful observations in the case considered would be one half if the longitudes of the stations were determined, but only one-sixteenth without them. It was, he supposed, from a tacit recognition of this fact that the Germans laid such stress on the determination of the longitudes of their stations, that they were willing to undergo the

labour and expense of working out a most elaborate network of telegraphic longitudes.

A letter from Professor Newcomb, U.S.N., was read, giving an account of the state in which Delaunay left his great work, *The Lunar Theory*. From this it appeared, that though the greater portion was complete, there remained much to be done before tables could be formed, and this work it was understood that M. Loewy, of the Paris Observatory, was prepared to undertake.

Mr. Dunkin, the honorary secretary, then read a paper by Professor Asaph Hall, U.S.N., which provoked some discussion. The author sought to prove that Sir W. Herschel had actually observed Ariel and Umbriel, the two interior satellites of Uranus, and was therefore the discoverer of these as well as of the other two, a view which Mr. Lassell, the discoverer of the two satellites in question, was inclined to dispute.

There were a large number of communications which were taken as read, and which will appear in the forthcoming number of the *Monthly Notices*.

NEW SHAKSPERE SOCIETY (November 13).

F. J. FURNIVALL, Esq., Director, in the Chair. The paper (read by Mr. Alexander J. Ellis) was by Professor J. K. Ingram, LL.D., of Trinity College, Dublin, "On the Weak Endings of Shakspere," with some account of the history of the Verse-Tests in general. The sixteen *weak endings* are "and, but (= L. *sed*, and = *except*), by, for, from, if, on, nor, or, than, that, to, with." The fifty-four *light-endings* are "am, are, art, be, been, but (= only), can, could, did, do, does, dost, ere, had, has, hast, have, he, how, I, into, his, like, may, might, shall, shalt, she, should, since, so, such, they, thou, though, through, till, upon, was, we, were, what, when, where, which, while, whilst, who, whom, why, will, would, yet (= *tamen*), you." The following is an extract from the Professor's table of these endings in Shakspere's late plays, whose order alone they help to settle:—

	No. of light endings.	No. of weak endings.	No. of verse lines in play.	Percentage of light endings.	Percentage of weak endings.	Percentage of both together.
Macbeth	21	2	—	—	—	?
Timon	15	9	1,112	1·35	?	?
Antony and Cleopatra	71	28	2,908	2·53	1·00	3·53
Coriolanus	60	44	2,563	2·34	1·71	4·05
Pericles (Shakspere part)	20	10	719	2·78	1·39	4·17
Tempest	42	25	1,460	2·88	1·71	4·59
Cymbeline	78	52	2,692	2·90	1·93	4·83
Winter's Tale	57	45	1,825	3·12	2·47	5·59
Two Noble Kinsmen (non-Fletcher part)	50	34	1,378	3·63	2·47	6·10
Henry VIII. (Sh. s. part)	45	37	1,146	3·93	3·23	7·16

COLLEGE FOR MEN AND WOMEN, QUEEN SQUARE, BLOOMSBURY (Saturday, November 14).

MR. NEWTON, of the British Museum, lectured on Greek Inscriptions. After an introductory sketch of their collection and publication, the lecturer drew attention to their great historical and philological value, and to the consequent increased use of them by contemporary scholarship. Having stated that Greek inscriptions might be divided into the three great groups of political, religious, and private, he spoke in some detail of those of Athens. The most important of the Athenian inscriptions were the tribute-lists, the study of which had led to very interesting historical results; the treasure-lists, which showed the practical genius of those who drew them up; and the lists of the dockyard.

The historical inscriptions of other Greek States were then noticed, particularly those bearing on the relations of sovereigns and free cities, arbitrations, public services, the institution of proxeni,

and, descending to the Roman dominion, the letters of the Emperors and their other public manifestoes. Mr. Newton next passed in review inscriptions relating to Greek religious rites and to the manner in which land was held under temples, and slaves were freed by sale to a divinity, and also the inscriptions found on dedicated objects. He concluded with a reference to those inscriptions which, though not of a monumental character, had an historical value—such as the tax-gatherers' receipts in Egypt written on potsherds and the stamped handles of wine-jars, by which we can trace the lines of ancient commerce in the Mediterranean and the Euxine.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY (Monday, Nov. 16).

J. W. DUNNING, Esq., M.A., F.L.S., Vice-president, in the Chair. Mr. Higgins exhibited some rare species of Cetoniidae from Borneo; among them were *Lomaptera Higginsii*, O. Janson, and a remarkable Dynastiform insect, named by Count Castelnau *Westwoodia Howitti*. Also two smaller specimens which had been supposed to be females of the last-named species, but were, more probably, females of an unknown species. The secretary exhibited a collection of fine species of Lepidoptera from Natal, which had been sent by Mr. W. D. Gooch for determination. The Rev. O. Pickard, Cambridge, sent notes on the curious spider's nest exhibited at the last meeting. It was unknown to him, and had it not been for a remark in Mr. Ward's letter implying that the nest he found belonged to a geometrical web, he should have conjectured that it was the work of an *Agelena*. If, however, the nest was appurtenant to a geometrical web, it must belong to a spider of the family *Epeiridae*. He did not think the sand in the nest was at all designed as ballast, but as a protection from the rays of the sun, and also from parasites. Mr. Smith remarked that the mud-coating of the nest of *Agelena brunnea* did not preserve that species from parasites, as he had often bred a species of *Pezomachus* from the nests; and he believed, in those cases, the eggs were attacked before the mud coating was added. Mr. Champion exhibited some rare species of British Coleoptera, viz., *Apion Ryei*, *Abdera triguttata*, *Lymexyl navalae*, *Athous subfuscus*, *Sylvanus similis*, and *Apion sanguineum*.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (Wednesday, November 18).

J. EVANS, Esq., F.R.S., President, in the Chair. Evidence was brought forward by Professor Owen, tending to show that a peculiar form of "sea-cow," or Sirenen Mammal, existed in the shallow waters from which the upper part of the Egyptian Nummulitic Limestone was deposited. The evidence consisted of part of the cranium, and the cast of the interior representing the entire brain and the base of the myelon. These parts sufficiently show that the creature to which they refer was allied to the manatees and dugongs of the present day, to the recently extinct *Rhytina Stelleri*, and to the fossil *Halitherium*. Professor Owen's fossil, which he terms *Eotherium Aegyptiacum*, was obtained from the limestone which is quarried in the Mokattam cliffs, south of Cairo, and is of special interest as carrying the range of the *Sirenia* back to Eocene times.—In a paper "On the Geology of North-West Lincolnshire," the Rev. J. E. Cross described the structure of a district bounded on three sides by the rivers Humber, Trent, and Ancholme. The chief physical features are three escarpments running north and south, and presenting bold faces to the west. The valley of the Trent is excavated in Keuper beds, and no representatives of the Rhaetic series have yet been found between these beds and the overlying Lias. In the lower zones of the Lias are found such fossils as *Ammonites angulatus*, *A. Bucklandi*, and *A. semi-costatus*. A band of ironstone, largely worked around Frodingham and Scanthorpe, is shown by the associated fossils to be referable to

the lower portion of the Lower Lias, and has therefore no geological connexion with the celebrated Cleveland ironstone which occurs in the Marlstone, or Middle Lias. The Lincolnshire ore is highly calcareous, and consequently needs to be mixed with siliceous ores, in order to be advantageously smelted. The ore worked at Caythorpe, near Grantham, may be on the same geological horizon. Following the Lincolnshire ironstone is a blue marl containing such fossils as *A. oxyntus*, which is succeeded by a seam of iron ore charged with pectens. The Middle Lias is not strongly represented, but contains characteristic fossils; one part being termed the "Rhynchonella bed," in consequence of the prevalence of *R. tetraedra*. Above the Upper Lias comes the "Lincolnshire Limestone," representing the Inferior Oolite; and this is succeeded by strata on the horizon of the Great Oolite and Corrash. East of the valley of the Ancholme the Chalk sets in, and rises into the range of the Lincolnshire Wolds. The author exhibited a number of finely-preserved fossils, including several new species which await description.

FINE ART.

RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO DÜRER LITERATURE. (Second Article: Dürer's *Enigmatical Engravings*.)

Dürer Studien. Versuch einer Erklärung schwer zu deutender Kupferstiche A. Dürers. Von Max Allihn. (Leipzig, 1871.) *Dürer Studien*. Four Articles contributed to the *Zeitschrift für Bildende Kunst* in 1873 and 1874. By Adolf Rosenberg.

A MORE scientific method of enquiry than the idle process of riddle-guessing so long in vogue has at the present day been brought to bear upon the enigmas of Dürer's art. These enigmas have from the earliest times severely taxed the ingenuity of commentators. Endless are the speculations to which they have given rise, and the hypotheses that have been framed to explain them; but, strange to say, no perfectly satisfactory interpretation has ever yet been offered of Dürer's meaning in several of his smaller, and two or three of his larger and best known engravings. "Dürer," wrote F. von Schlegel in his *Reise-Beschreibungen*, "appears to me like the originator of a new and noble system of thought, burning with the zeal of a first pure inspiration, and eager to diffuse his deeply-conceived and probably true and great ideas." If so, it were, indeed, to be lamented that these ideas should be lost for want of understanding the system of thought that originated them. But there is no reason to suppose that Albrecht Dürer, like Leonardo da Vinci, forestalled by his intellectual insight the development of a later age; if, therefore, we find thoughts and feelings ascribed to him that were not the natural growth of his time and country, we may well doubt that they were his. His meaning will much more likely be found by studying the culture of the age in which he lived, by observing the influences at work in the circle in which he moved, and by comparing his work with that of other artists with whom he was likely to have had common associations. Several German commentators have of late been making researches in this direction, and this is the point of view from which Dr. Max Allihn in particular criticises former interpretations of several of the most difficult of Dürer's prints, and

offers his own solution of their meanings. He has searched in the writings of moralists and humourists, of Minnesingers and Meistersingers, for elucidations of the thought of the artist, and has found many analogies between the conceptions of other German masters who delighted in allegory and those of Dürer.

The symbolism of the large print usually called *The Great Fortune*—but considered by Haussmann, Passavant, Eye, Von Retberg, and many other writers, to be the *Nemesis* mentioned so often in Dürer's journal, has certainly been placed almost beyond doubt by Dr. Allihn's thorough method of investigation. The difficulty in the way of accepting it as Fortune has always been that the naked female figure standing on a ball in the clouds, and holding in her hands a chalice and a bridle, has none of the attributes of the blind goddess—none of the attributes, at least, by which we are accustomed to recognise her. But it seems that, in the fifteenth century, it was by no means uncommon to represent Fortune standing on a ball, or with a ball as her attribute. Several middle-age poets speak of the ball as well as of the wheel of Fate. The latter symbol was, it is true, most common; but it is easy to understand that, for artistic purposes, the former might be more serviceable. The chalice and the bridle are not so easily explained. The chalice, however, is not unfrequently met with in art as expressive of riches or well-being, and also as meaning the temptation of riches—as, for instance, the golden cup that the woman of the Apocalypse holds in her hand. The bridle, on the other hand, is an emblem of oppression, slavery, and perhaps of resistance opposed to temptation. In an engraving by H. Aldegrever we have a figure very similar to Dürer's *Great Fortune*—evidently, indeed, inspired by it—holding in one hand a chalice, and in the other a serpent, with a bridle hanging over the arm that holds forth the chalice. Several other variations of this conception occur in German art, but the most remarkable is a figure by Holbein that Max Allihn has found in a border illustration of a book published by the celebrated Frobensius, of Basel, in 1532.

The Table of Cebes, an allegorical representation of human life often employed in the Middle Ages, is the subject of this border, and in it Holbein has depicted Fortune as a winged figure standing on a ball in the clouds, and holding in her hands exactly the same emblems as Dürer's Fortune. The outward form of the two figures is somewhat different, but the idea is unmistakably the same, and as if to leave no doubt as to the signification of this idea, Holbein has written in plain characters above the head of the goddess the name *Fortuna*. Moreover, two groups of mortals lie to the right and left: the poor, miserable, and oppressed, over whom the bridle is suspended; and the rich and happy, decked in fine clothes and feathers, to whom the chalice is offered, but whose condition may quickly be altered by the rolling of the ball.

Here, then, we have a plain solution of the difficulty; for if a figure holding bridle and chalice meant Fortune in Holbein's language, it is natural to suppose it meant the same

in Dürer's. But if so, how reconcile this view with the Nemesis theory? Dürer undoubtedly called one of his larger prints *Nemesis*, and what other remains that he could possibly have so designated? Dr. Max Allihn's method is here of great service, for it leads to the induction that Dürer meant by his *Nemesis* not the avenging goddess of the Greeks, but a Fate goddess, who distributes alike both good and evil—a conception not at all at variance with the understanding of his time. Thus Erasmus, in the *Encomium Moriae*, speaks of "Rhamnusia rerum humanarum fortunatrix;" and Vincenzo Cartari, in his *Imagini dei Dei degli Antichi*, describes her as "la Dea che punisce i maluagi e dà premio ai buoni;" and in another place, "Nemesis . . . opprime i troppo superbi e solleva gli umili."

This exactly tallies with Dürer's idea of a goddess who is the disposer of human things, of a "Fortuna-Nemesis," as she is called by Dr. Max Allihn, who may really claim to have propounded a well-founded theory concerning this print, in place of the unverified hypotheses of numerous other commentators. The late Mr. Holt's wonderful story, by which he made out the figure to have been designed by Dürer to represent Margaret the Regent of the Netherlands, must, it is to be feared, fall to the ground, with his other clever invention, by which he proved, to his own satisfaction at all events, that the *Knight, Death and Devil* was the Nemesis.

The interpretations that Dr. Max Allihn offers of some of the other enigmatical engravings are not quite so satisfactory. It is difficult, for instance, to accept the subject known variously as the *Four Naked Women*, the *Three Graces*, and *The Witches* (Bartsch 75; Heller 861), as a representation of Female Vanity; for, in spite of the elaborate head-dresses of these perplexing ladies, it is impossible to imagine that their charms can have led them to the sin of vanity. Four more ugly female figures have seldom been depicted, and it seems much more likely that Dürer intended by them some reference to the terrible belief in witchcraft that was one of the curses of the Middle Ages. Dürer's monogram appears in the corner of this plate, but it has been supposed by several commentators that it was merely copied by him from an earlier master. It is just possible that the mysterious letters O.G.H., that appear beneath the hanging ball with the date 1497, were the initials of the unknown artist, and the date also that of the time at which he executed the work; for, as Nagler has pointed out, the engraving of the *Four Naked Women* belongs in execution to Dürer's later rather than to his earlier time; and it is therefore strange to find it dated 1497, the earliest date on his copper-plates.

Neither is the explanation very plain by which the naked man who sits on a bank holding in his grasp a woman dressed in the costume of the early part of the fifteenth century (Bartsch 93; Heller 893), is made out to be an Incubus. Far more probable seems Herr Adolf Rosenberg's interpretation of the subject as an impersonation of Envy. This solution of the riddle has, at all events, the advantage of being an old one, for Herr Rosenberg has found on a copy of the print

in the Berlin collection the inscription *Der Neidhart* in old and nearly effaced Gothic characters. A verse in Sebastian Brand's *Narrenschiff* also describes Envy as having

" . . . Ein bleichen mund
Dürr, mager, er ist wie ein hund
Sein augen rot und sieht nieman
Mit ganzen vollen augen an."

a description that entirely agrees with the repulsive wretch Dürer has drawn.

Herr Rosenberg is the latest interpreter of the Dürer enigmas. In four articles, entitled "Dürer Studien," contributed at various dates since May, 1873, to the *Zeitschrift für Bildende Kunst*, he has carefully analysed the prints known as the *Woman* and the *Wildman* (called by Bartsch *Le Violent*, and by Von Retberg *Der Tod*), which, as before said, he interprets as Envy; the offer of Love (Bartsch 93; Heller 891), interpreted as a warning against unequal marriage. The *Four Naked Women* construed as a Death dance, and the *Great Fortune*, concerning which he agrees in the main with Max Allihn, but brings forward arguments to prove that the *Fortuna* is a portrait of a member of the Tucher family.

None of these solutions except the first has much novelty, nor are the prints they seek to explain of any great interest.

Strange to say, neither Max Allihn nor Rosenberg attempts to solve the mystery of the subject known as the *Knight, Death and Devil*. This celebrated print, more than any other, perhaps, has puzzled the wisdom of commentators. Vasari calls it a symbol of Human Fortitude, and it has sometimes gone by that name; others have seen in it a representation of the Christian Knight (another of its titles), while others, again, taking a different view of the Knight's character, describe him as an evil man going forth on some bad errand, for whom Death and the Devil are lying in wait.

Von Eye considers that Dürer probably had in his mind the personification of the noblest type of German character, and recognises in the Knight "the upright German man who will not be restrained from realising his idea by the depths and horrors of life;" and Dr. Waagen decides that "ni la Mort ni le Diable n'arrête un brave et loyal chevalier."

All these interpretations, and many more that might be quoted, are based on the assumption that Dürer had some profound ethical meaning in his *Knight, Death, and Devil*. But is this certain? No doubt he meant to teach some moral lesson by it, but may not this lesson have been simply the solemn truth so frequently insisted upon by the art of his time, that "in the midst of life we are in death"? The skeleton of Death was a familiar image in the fifteenth century. In Holbein's famous *Dance* we see the ghastly figure discrowning the Emperor, lurking behind the preacher in the pulpit, robbing the miser of his gold, seizing the Friar by the hood, and conquering the mighty noble. In the Death dances of other artists, and in other moral representations of the age, we find the same lesson enforced. In Dürer's own art also, death is often present. While a loving fifteenth-century couple are taking a quiet walk (Bartsch 94; Heller 884), Death peeps out at them from

behind a tree; in one of his drawings, Death is looking over the shoulder of a young lady who is adorning herself at a looking-glass; and in the coat of arms known as that of the "Death's Head," a skull is the only emblazonment on the escutcheon.

This idea of Death as the all-powerful was, indeed, ever lurking in Dürer's mind, and the *Knight, Death, and Devil* may be taken as the noblest expression of it. An armed knight rides forth on some bold enterprise, confident in his own strength, and with his will resolutely set towards the accomplishment of some definite purpose. But Death on his lame horse keeps up with the rider, and the Knight's strength will be of no avail and his purpose never accomplished. The foul fiend that follows so close behind does not necessarily indicate that this purpose was a bad one, as many commentators have supposed, for the same kind of one-horned animal-demon pokes at Christ with a spear in that strange engraving of the Passion series, *Christ's Descent into Hell*. In this latter subject Satan is evidently "wrath to see his kingdom fail." Dürer, in his journal, calls the *Knight, Death, and Devil* simply *Ein Reiter*. He mentions it twice.

The *Melancolia* is another enigmatical print that has given rise to endless conjecture. Dr. Max Allihn brings much additional evidence to show that Dürer meant it as a representation of one of the Four Temperaments, or complexions as they were sometimes called, a common subject of speculation in his day: and that the "I" after the word "Melancolia" on the scroll refers to its having been intended by him as the first of a series never accomplished. This has always seemed the most probable hypothesis, and very likely no farther idea was in Dürer's mind when he conceived that grand winged woman; but a great artist's creations often transcend the bounds of his knowledge, and reveal truths to others that he himself only saw as dim images. No interpretations, fortunately, can do away with the sense of mystery that excites our minds whenever we study Dürer's art. There is no analytical process known that can give us the exact constituents of genius.

MARY M. HEATON.

THE SOCIETY OF FRENCH ARTISTS.

THIS exhibition, housed at No. 168 New Bond Street, opened on November 16. There is a great deal of talent in it: indeed the pictures which do not reach at least the level of clever and decisive sketching-work form but a small minority. The contributing artists know what they are about, and so no doubt does the Director, M. Durand-Ruel. The more salient examples belong to the landscape section: in figure-subjects there is little of leading importance, but plenty of skill.

Rent-day, by Robert-Fleury, painted as far back as 1849, comes among the foremost. This work is evidently done with a view to the manner of Rembrandt: it has much expression and no lack of character, but the colour is too hot to be agreeable. M. Legros sends three heads, each of them interesting in its way. The first is a *Portrait of T. Woolner, Esq., A.R.A.*, a good picture and recognisable likeness, but with a certain bluntness of physiognomy which looks perhaps rather Flemish than English. The hand is gloved, and poised in the waistcoat-pocket: which seems a pity, as one naturally expects, in the portrait of a sculptor, to

see his hand uncovered. The *Portrait of Mrs. ...* (No. 68) is the least satisfactory of the three, although the quiet drab tints of colour, opposed to the full-hued pink of the flesh, are of true painter-like quality. The *Study of a Head* (1:5) is extremely fine. It represents a dark and rather fat Spanish or French woman of some thirty-five years of age; an interesting face, with much capability of emotion. The deep-tinted but clear flesh, the neutral background, and the varying shades of black or sombre brown in dress, veil, and hair, with one gold ear-ring showing as a point of richness and relief, make up a memorable piece of pure reserved colour. The work combines the facility of a sketcher with seriousness of study, and is in both ways masterly. With this we may compare the *Study of a Head* by Ribot (15); also the work of a trained and sure executant, and fairly like a Velasquez, but a dull and ugly one. The girl who sat for this portrait must surely have had scant justice done to her.

Other works which should be looked at are *The Breakfast-table*, E. Duez; *Scène de Ballet*, E. Degas, merely laid in, but with much truth of a certain kind; Roybet's two contributions, *The Beer-drinker*, and *The Card-players*; *The Lady in White Dress*, by Alfred Stevens, slight, but, as usual, telling; *Washing on the Seine*, Boldini, very clever in touch and general management, but somewhat raw in colour; *Scene in Tunis*, R. LeGrand, a minute piece of finished precision; *Return from the Battue*, Jules Ferry; *A Caravan on its Way to the Sea*, V. Huguet; *Sifting Wheat*, Feyen-Perrin, combining something of the style of Millet's peasant-subjects with purposely statu-esque pose; and the *Mother and Child* of J. De Vriendt, one of the followers of Baron Leys.

We reserve for another article the landscapes in the Gallery, and other miscellaneous works.

W. M. ROSSETTI.

GENERAL CUNNINGHAM'S DISCOVERIES AT BHARHUT.

We called attention some time ago (ACADEMY, August 1) to the important discoveries lately made by General Cunningham, the Director of the Archaeological Survey in India. They were dwelt on by Mr. Grant Duff in his address before the Archaeological Section of the International Congress of Orientalists, and excited the keenest interest among foreign scholars who were then present. Unfortunately, no sketches or photographs of the ruins of Bharhut had been sent from India in time for the Congress. General Cunningham, however, has now returned to Bharhut (this is his own spelling of the name), and is at present engaged in taking photographic copies of all that is important among the ruins of the old Buddhist Stupa. Some of them have been received, and convey an idea of the real state in which the sculptures and the inscriptions are found. On the pillar which contains the scene of the Jetavana garden being bought by Anāthapindaka by covering the ground with pieces of gold, we see indeed something that may be construed as representing that famous event; but it is doubtful whether, without the inscription underneath, anyone, even if he possessed the learning and sagacity of Mr. Beal, could have guessed its real meaning. The inscription, of which there is both a small photograph and a rubbing on paper, is likewise not quite clear. In the centre some of the letters are injured, and as it now stands it is difficult to discover the exact grammatical construction. It reads:—

"getavana anādha (tha) pedi ko da (?) ti ko ti sam thatena ketā (to)."

The letter read *dh* in *Anādha*, may be meant for *th*, but *pediko* cannot be made to stand for *pindaka* or *pindada*, nor can *ketā* stand for *krito*, "bought." *Samthata* might be the Sanskrit *samstrita*, spreading out. As the number of inscriptions seems considerable, they may in time throw light on

each other, and enable us to form a more exact idea of the Pali dialect in which they are written. At present, the interpretation must be considered as hypothetical only.

General Cunningham is fully aware how much depends on fixing a date for these ruins. The style of the architecture, the character of the sculptures, the shape of the letters, all would seem to point to an early date, to a date anterior to our era; but the less positive archaeologists are in fixing dates on such evidence, the better for the free progress of scientific enquiry. General Cunningham's chief argument in favour of ascribing the original building to the age of Asoka, is derived from an inscription engraved on one of the pillars of the East Gateway. It reads as follows:—

"Suganā rāge rāgna gāgiputasa visadevāsā potena gāgiputasa agarāgasa putena vākhiputona dhanabhitā kāritām toranām silākāmāta ka upamā."

Bābu Rajendra Lal Mittra, whom General Cunningham consulted, explained it:—

"In the kingdom of Sugana (Srughna) this Toran with its ornamental stone work and plinth was caused to be made by King Dhanabhūti, son of Vākhi and Agarāga, son of Gati, and grandson of Visa, son of Gāgī."

A comparison with the original shows that the translation cannot be accepted, and General Cunningham has therefore proposed the following:—

"In the kingdom of Sugana, this Toran (ornamental arch), with its carved stone work and plinth, was caused to be made by Vākhiputra's pupil, Rāga Dhanabhūti, the son of Gatiputra's pupil, Agarāga, and the grandson of Gāgiputra's pupil, Visva Deva."

General Cunningham points out that two of these names, *Gatiputra* and *Vākhiputra* had already appeared in the *Bhilsa* inscriptions, and he holds that *Gāgiputra*, *Gatiputra*, and *Vākhiputra* are the names of Buddhist teachers, and that the kings named in the inscription are their spiritual pupils. He then argues, that in the *Bhilsa* records the two names of *Gatiputra* and *Vākhiputra* hold the same relative position chronologically which they do in the *Bharhut* inscription; that *Vākhiputra* is said to be the pupil of *Gatiputra*, and that consequently *Aga Rāga* and *Vākhiputra* were fellow-pupils. He thinks it was due to this connexion, that *Aga Rāga* selected *Vākhiputra* as the teacher of his own son *Dhanabhūti*. Lastly, as the famous *Mogaliputra* was likewise a pupil of *Gatiputra* (see *Bhilsa Topes*, plate xxix. No. 9), and as he was seventy-two years of age at the meeting of Asoka's Synod, 242 B.C., General Cunningham concludes that his fellow-pupils *Vākhiputra* and *Aga Rāga* must have flourished towards the end of Bindusāra's reign, or about 270 B.C., while *Dhanabhūti*, the pupil of *Vākhiputra*, cannot be placed later than 240 B.C.

This argument is certainly ingenious, but it rests on an explanation of the names *Gāgiputra*, *Gatiputra*, and *Vākhiputra*, which can hardly be accepted. The custom of taking the mother's name was common in the early ages of Buddhism. King *Agātāsatu* is called *Vaidehiputra*, meaning either the son of *Vaidehi*, or the son of a *Vaideha* woman. In the genealogies of the *Yagurveda* the same system prevails. The name of *Gāgiputra*, which is mentioned there, is probably the same as the Buddhist name *Gāgiputra*. It would be impossible to suppose that King *Agātāsatu* was called *Vaidehiputra*, because this was his teacher's name; and the same difficulty will be felt by most scholars with regard to King *Dhanabhūti* *Vākhiputra*, King *Agarāga* *Gatiputra*, and King *Visadeva* *Gāgiputra*.

Another argument in favour of the early date of the *Bharhut* ruins advanced by General Cunningham is of greater value. About three years ago, he says, a small hoard of silver coins was found in a field near *Jwalamukhi*, which comprised five coins of the native princes *Amogha-bhūti*, *Dāra Goshā*, and *Vāmika*, along with nearly thirty specimens of the *Philopator* coins of *Apollodatus*. There were no other coins in the hoard, and as

the coins of Apollodatus, as well as those of the native princes, were all quite fresh and new, the whole must have been buried during the reign of Apollodatus, or not later than 150 B.C. The Indian characters on the coins of the native princes have all got heads, or mātrās, added to them, while several of them have assumed considerable modification in their forms, more particularly the *g*, *m*, *gh*, which have become angular on the coins. But these letters are invariably round in all the Bharhut inscriptions, exactly like those of the known Asoka records. The absolute identity, therefore, of the forms of the Bharhut characters with those of the Asoka period is a very strong proof that they must belong to the same age.

With regard to King Amogha, General Cunningham adds that the name which Mr. Thomas reads Krananda, and which he tried to identify with Xandrames, is really Kuzinda. The inscription reads:—

"Ragma Kunindasa Amoghabhutisa Maharagasa," Kuninda being the name of a people. The same custom of giving the national name prevails in the Mādhyamika coins, two specimens of which were given by Prinsep, but upside down. The legend is:—

"Maghimikāya sibiganapadasa, coin of the Maghimikāya of the county of Sibi." Sibi is the scene of the Vessantara Gātaka, situated in the neighbourhood of Chetiya, and if Chetiya was Vidisa or Bhilsa, Sibi would be Ujavi or Chitor, the very place where Prinsep's two coins were found, and where General Cunningham discovered eight more of the same type. According to him, Sibi would be the true original of Siwālikā, which among the early Mohammedans included all the hilly country to the south of Delhi. Equally important are numerous coins (several hundreds) of the Mālavāna, another people mentioned in the Mahābhārata. Their legends are written in various characters from the time of Asoka to the age of the Guptas, or perhaps even later. These ethnic coins, General Cunningham remarks, and especially those of the Maghimikāya, are the highest triumph of Indian numismatics.

MAX MÜLLER.

NOTES AND NEWS.

A PORTRAIT of the late Owen Jones has been exhibited for a few days at the South Kensington Museum, seemingly intended to be executed in mosaic, similarly to those already placed in the South Court of that building. The picture gives a profile likeness of the artist, satisfactorily correct, standing in an easy position and bearing under his arm a large portfolio. To avoid the awkward outlines of modern costume, a travelling plaid is thrown round the figure, and the whole has a sober tone which contrasts powerfully with the gold background. This may be intentional, as light colours do not suit in proximity with gold—witness the St. George of England in the central lobby of the Houses of Parliament. The artist is Mr. F. W. Moody, already well known as a designer of much decorative work in the Museum, though this is, if we mistake not, the first portrait we have seen from his hands. The mosaic, surrounded by a well-designed oriental enrichment, will be appropriately placed in the Indian Court, the ceiling of which was designed by Mr. Owen Jones.

AMONG the most recent additions to the collection of Greek and Roman antiquities in the British Museum are five Athenian lekythi, and a small series of terra-cotta statuettes from Tanagra, which latter are not only remarkable among their kind for beauty, but are also in a state of almost perfect preservation. The lekythi are of the usual form and polychrome design, the subject of which, to be in keeping with the destination of these vases—they were made to be placed in tombs—is of a sepulchral nature. On one of them

is to be seen Charon approaching in his boat to where a lady stands beside a tomb. On two of them the delicacy of the drawing, and the refinement displayed in the bearing and the proportions of the figures and in the composition of the groups, are in a high degree worthy of notice. From Aristophanes (*Eccles.* 996) it seems to have been a special branch of art in Athens to paint these lekythi (*οἱ τοῖς νεκροῖς ζωγράφοι τὰς λανεῖσσας*). For the colours employed in sepulchral architecture at least, and for the colours of the dresses worn in Athens, these lekythi furnish valuable evidence. The Museum collection of them is now very rich. The newly-acquired specimens are for the moment to be seen in the Bronze Room.

THE colossal statue of Adonis, which was said to have been lately discovered on a farm near Mount Onanaga, in America, and which Professor Schlottmann, at the Congress of Philologists in Innsbruck, declared to be of Phoenician origin, has been proved to be a forgery. As the statue is ten feet long, and made of alabaster, the expense of the forgery must have been considerable.

THE Exhibition of the Union Centrale in the Champs Elysées closes on the 30th of this month.

THE Greek Government has just arrested at Athens M. Xacousti, a dealer in antiquities, who had carried off to Tanagra some very ancient statues. The police discovered in a back room of his house an artist occupied in restoring all the statues, with a view to selling them to the European museums. The dealer, artist, and the hundred and twenty statues are all in the hands of the police.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON AND WOODS began their sales this week. On the 10th and 11th were sold china and tapestries; the former a miscellaneous collection, consisting mostly of English:—Lot 279, A brown stoneware jug, mounted in silver-gilt, chased and engraved, with the hall mark, date 1590, sold for 53 guineas. Of the old Bow:—Lot 223, Four groups representing the Elements, 51*l. 9s.*; Lot 224, A pair of fine figures of Gardeners, 50*l.*; and Lot 286, A pair, lady and gentleman with bird and cage, 26 guineas. The Chelsea figures fetched but moderate prices:—Lot 195, A pair of two-light candlesticks with seated figures in bouquets, 23 guineas; Lot 234, Justice, 10 guineas; Lot 237, A centre-piece formed of four kneeling figures of negroes, holding shell-shaped fruit dishes, 45*l.*; Lot 287, A pair of candlesticks, may blossoms and poultry, 15 guineas; Lot 288, Figure of Britannia, 14 guineas; Lot 290, A pair of Chelsea Derby rustic figures, boy and girl, 20 guineas. The tapestry, of which there were five pieces, was remarkable, as being of silk and the work of Polish looms, executed before the partition of Poland. The colours were pale, and had more the appearance of paintings in *gouache*, the drawing of the figures indifferent. The prices it fetched were low. Lot 320, A river scene with peasants, measuring 18*l.* by 16 feet, and signed "F. Glaize à Varsovie," sold for 30 guineas, and its companion, Lot 321, for the same price. The largest piece, Lot 324, 37 by 16 feet, with hunting subject, inscribed with the same initials as above, fetched 50 guineas.

THE *Instituto di Corrispondenza Archeologica* of Rome continues its valuable reports on the most important of the excavations going on among the ancient sites of Italy, the October number of the *Bullettino* being devoted to excavations at Chiusi, Volterra, Corneto, Capua and Pompei. At Chiusi a tomb has been laid bare which from the nature of its wall paintings seems to date from an exceedingly early period of Etruscan art. As on the earliest so-called Phoenician or Graeco-Phoenician vases, the design of these paintings consists of winged animals—not such as naturally have wings—but winged lions and panthers, with the addition of fabulous gryphons and sphinxes. The colours are black and red, the outline being

first scratched in. At Volterra, on the other hand, the discoveries here reported consist of Etruscan objects dating from the later Roman period, such, for example, as terra-cotta urns with reliefs representing scenes from the Greek mythology. About a mile and a half from Corneto on the way to Viterbo has been found a tomb cut in the rock—its entrance facing the south—with two compartments, one larger than the other. There is no evidence of there having been more than one interment, and yet the objects found in this tomb range themselves into two distinct classes as regards style of work. Both classes belong to early times, the older of the two presenting a distinct resemblance to what is frequently called the archaic Indo-European art or workmanship. Another tomb opened near the same place yielded only some fragments of archaic pottery. Beside the viaduct on the way from Capua to St. Maria, Signor Doria has come upon two graves containing a series of vases and objects in bronze, both of Greek origin and of a style which, though archaic, still borders on the best period of Greek art. These objects will form a contrast to the many precious and comparatively perfect specimens of Greek work which Capua had before yielded.

M. F. LENORMANT gives, in the *Revue Archéologique* for October, an engraving and a short description of the statue of Antinous, found in the course of his excavations at Eleusis in 1860. He regards it, apparently with the consent of those who have seen it, as a work of the time of Hadrian. The peculiarity of the statue lies in the figure of an *omphalos* which rises from the base at the feet of Antinous. The presence of the *omphalos* of Apollo at Delphi at the feet of a god who was only a sort of Dionysos, is explained by M. Lenormant by a reference to the statement that Dionysos Zagreus met his death at that *omphalos*. If he is right so far, he is doubtless also right when he adds that the *omphalos* may thus have recalled the death of Antinous.

IN the same number of the *Revue* (p. 253-9) Count Conestable gives what was promised in a previous number, viz., some results of a general character obtained in his examination of a large series of Etruscan tombs, with a view to the question of cremation *versus* inhumation. The latter process, it seems, was that favoured by the Etruscans proper during their national independence. Under Roman dominion they appear to have resorted mostly to cremation. But Etruria before the advent of the Etruscans had been occupied by a primitive Italian race living, to judge from its tombs, in the so-called Bronze Age. With this race cremation was the rule, but their choice of this process is less likely to have been dictated by sanitary motives, as at present, than by the same feelings which led them, like other primitive peoples, to take delight in human sacrifice.

THE amount realised by the Paul Baudry exhibition (48,262 francs) has, after deducting the necessary expenses, been distributed among various charitable and artistic institutions, 2,000 francs in particular having been sent to the poor of Roche-sur-Yon, the birthplace of the popular artist.

THE monument to Théophile Gautier, which is being prepared by M. Drevet, is spoken of as being a very fine work. The design, however, can scarcely be said to have the merit of originality. The pedestal is formed of a block of marble sent by Belgium. On the top of this rests the usual monumental sarcophagus ornamented with crowns of immortelles, a lyre, and other emblems of poetry and fame. On the sarcophagus is seated the Muse of Poetry leaning on a bronze medallion likeness of the poet. The monument will be inaugurated, it is said, at the beginning of next year.

THE heirs of Count Vettor-Pisani-Zusto have presented to the city of Venice a fine group by

Canova representing Daedalus and Icarus, and an agate toilet service that formerly belonged to the celebrated Catarina Cornaro, queen of Cyprus.

A PANEL painting representing the Adoration of the Shepherds, signed with the initials H. H. and dated 1511, has lately been discovered by Dr. Eitelberger, director of the Vienna Gallery, in the convent of St. Paul, in the Levanthal, Carinthia. The presumption of course is that it was painted by Hans Holbein. The painting was formerly in the St. Blasien Convent in the Black Forest.

IN the newly opened Italian galleries of the Louvre will be found five paintings that have never before been exhibited to the public. One of these is by Paolo Veronese. It originally formed part of the decorations of the Ducal Palace at Venice, but was acquired by Napoleon I., who placed it in the Queen's antechamber at Versailles. It represents St. Mark crowning the theological virtues.

WE learn from the *Builder* that the new block of buildings at the north-east side of the National Gallery is now nearly finished. The rooms on the ground floor will be devoted to the use of the students, and one part will be used as offices; but the large new galleries which form the upper portion of the building are to be added to the present building and appropriated entirely to the exhibition of works of art. These new galleries are connected with those already existing by means of an entrance leading into a large octagonal hall forty-three feet in diameter, covered with a dome of iron and glass. Four vestibules open out of this hall, the approaches to which are richly ornamented by double columns of green Genoa marble. The new galleries, three in number, extend from the vestibules along the north, north-east, and east sides of the building. They are all lofty, and the largest gallery has a fine groined ceiling. It is 120 feet long by 40 wide, and by its lighting and general arrangements seems well adapted for purposes of exhibition. Every precaution, we are told, has been taken against fire, and iron has been used as much as possible in the construction of the roofs, but we regret to say the flooring is of wood. It is expected that the new galleries will be ready early next year, and it is proposed that they shall contain not only paintings, but sculpture, and other works of art. The vestibules especially will be devoted to works of plastic art. This new block, it must be remembered, is only a small portion of Mr. Barry's design for the rebuilding of our National Gallery. The carrying out of his proposed plans would involve the entire rebuilding of the frontage in Trafalgar Square, as well as a new elevation to St. Martin's Lane, and a great extension of the building westward. There seems, however, no present intention of continuing the work of reconstruction any further.

M. AILLAUD, director of the Government manufactory of tapestry at Beauvais, has just died. When the Prussians occupied the town, they took possession of the fine collection of old tapestries which forms the treasure of the manufactory, and sent it off to Germany. M. Aillaud, at the peril of his life, succeeded in procuring their restoration.

THE great staircase of the Palais Royal, which had been injured by the fire of the Commune, is now completely restored, and was inaugurated on the 5th for the ceremony of reopening the Cour de Cassation, who used it on their departure to and return from the Palais de Justice. The iron work of this staircase, belonging to the eighteenth century, is admirable, and its beauty has been hitherto in great part concealed by a thick coat of paint. Several workmen have been employed for a whole year in cleaning and restoring the iron work and regilding the bronzes which decorate it; and this fine work may now rival the two magnificent gates of the Louvre, which form the entrances, one to the Gallery of Apollo, and the other to the collection of ancient bronzes.

THE STAGE.

THE DRAMA IN NEW YORK.

New York: October 23, 1874.

THANKS to Charlotte Cushman, who has begun at Booth's Theatre a brief engagement, in which she bids farewell to the profession she has followed with distinction for forty years, and likewise to Miss Adelaide Neilson, who is presenting Beatrice and Juliet at the Lyceum, Shakespeare this week divides with Octave Feuillet the attention of the public. In a professional sense the two ladies mentioned have little in common, but I resist the temptation to suggest contrasts which is held out by their simultaneous appearance on the New York stage. It is enough to say that the mild excitement stirred by the one is as a ripple on the surface of society to the deep ground swell of interest which has been raised by the prospect of the other's retirement. You may here and there meet a person who will tell you Edwin Forrest was a ranter, and not a few who regard Edwin Booth as an overrated man, but as to Miss Cushman there seems to be but one opinion. Forrest, indeed, in his blunt way and peculiar phraseology, said once that the lady was "marked and quoted by the hand of God to play but three characters—Goneril, Meg Merrilees, and Nancy Sykes;" but Forrest is dead, and if any survive that share his opinion, they are dumb. There were candour and conscientiousness, if nothing else, in the mad tragedian's criticism: Meg Merrilees is beyond question Miss Cushman's best realisation, and she has done well to select it as one of the three characters in which she is to make her last appearances in public. Whatever mannerisms Miss Cushman is possessed of are to be charged, one and all, to her action. There is nothing to improve in her noble elocution, on which the ear hangs uniringly, marking that not a syllable dies on the air without contributing its part to the harmony of sound; but the eye does not share the delight of the sister sense. Like "a queen and daughter to a king," Miss Cushman bears herself with dignity, and if grace form no part of that dignity, it is very easy to become reconciled to such a want in a woman of her weight. Her one chief defect is now, and always has been, a certain lack of repose, but for this there would be little room for improvement in her method; for even when, with her, the action suits the word, the word would often, it must be admitted, be still better suited by no action whatever.

Miss Neilson has been representing Beatrice—an effort which will not add to the lady's reputation here; but which has been, on the contrary, so great a disappointment to discerning people, that the managers of the Lyceum have done right in withdrawing *Much Ado about Nothing* and substituting *Romeo and Juliet*. Miss Neilson has not yet acquired the art of word-fencing, of which Beatrice's representative should be a mistress. From her lips repartee comes like the downward stroke of a broadsword, not like the wrist-play of a rapiere thrust. She dulls the edge of the sarcasm, obscures the sparkle of the wit, and replaces the piquant vivacity of Beatrice by an abundance, and to spare, of animal spirits. In *Romeo and Juliet* Miss Neilson appears to much better advantage; but even when personating Juliet—which she has laboured over, it will be confessed, to some purpose—it seems as difficult for her to rid herself even for one moment of her identity, as it is for her audience to rid themselves of the idea that what they witness is a very transparent piece of simulation. To be totally unconscious of Miss Neilson while Miss Neilson is on the stage is not possible. Her beauty is the admiration of men, and her costumes the wonder of women; and if her stage appearances are not impressive, they are on the whole pleasing—and the large majority of people prefer rather to be pleased than to be impressed.

ROBERT SOMERS.

A SUDDEN barrenness has come over the theatrical world, so that theatrical people might imagine themselves to be within a fortnight of Christmas—the dead fortnight during which everything is prepared and nothing produced. There has been no new piece this week, and for to-night nothing more important is announced than the opening of the *Opera Comique* under the control of Miss Amy Sheridan. Mr. Burnand's burlesque—a new version of *Ixion*—of which we have spoken before, will then be brought out; Messrs. Stoyle, Barker and Gaston Murray, Miss Pattie Laverne and Miss Eleanor Button being the principal people engaged.

OPERA BOUFFE continues to be everywhere. Its reign is despotic and will probably be brief. The Criterion Theatre is the last territory it has conquered, and there on this day week the *Prés Saint Gervais* will be produced. There will be Lecocq's music to an English adaptation of Sardou's little story, now much expanded by himself for performance in Paris. The excellent singer, Miss Pauline Rita, is among the artists engaged.

MR. PHELPS is to return to the Gaiety Theatre at Christmas. It has been announced that the *Merry Wives of Windsor* will be played on the occasion of his return, Mr. Phelps enacting Sir John Falstaff—one of the pleasantest things we may now look forward to, if he be but strongly supported.

NOTHING is sacred for a comic actor: not even *Hamlet*. Poole's travesty of the same was played last Saturday for the benefit of Mr. Odell, whom some of us remember at the Strand and elsewhere. Mr. Odell himself appeared as the Prince of Denmark, and it was his effort to parody the performance of Mr. Irving. Though on the whole Mr. Odell was feeble, it gratified the audience to see the dead Polonius carried off, as Matthias in *The Bells* bore off the Polish Jew; while Miss Rachel Sanger was found amusing as Ophelia, and Mr. Brough very funny as the King. A scene from *Two Roses*, with the Vaudeville company, formed part of the day's entertainment.

A BRILLIANT writer, who does so much that he prefers frequently to have recourse to a pseudonym, to relieve him of superfluous honour, is now busy, we hear, upon a piece for the Court Theatre.

MR. CLAYTON, the actor—brother of a well-known painter—is engaged in travelling and playing with Miss Bateman in the provinces.

EVEN in the country it is easy, apparently, to find audiences for the *School for Scandal*. At Bristol, last week, it was acted at both the theatres. At one house Mr. Coleman and Miss Helen Barry performed the parts of Sir Peter and Lady Teazle, while at the other these parts were performed by Mr. J. Clarke and Miss Furtado. Mr. Clarke's effort was new, and not amazingly successful. Miss Furtado has represented Lady Teazle a hundred times, and looks the character excellently.

Now that the *Veuve*, by Meilhac and Halévy, is played at the Théâtre du Gymnase, *La Princesse Georges* is performed no longer, and Mdlle. Tallandiera, the *débutante*, is accordingly no more to be seen. She will of course re-appear, for though the effect produced at her *début* was not quite such as had been anticipated, judges of the art of acting, like M. Regnier and M. Dumas, can hardly have been mistaken when they predicted great things for her. A correspondent who saw her during one of her very few performances, has written to us what was his impression—an impression of power, he says, as yet untamed, and perhaps untameable. For Mdlle. Tallandiera, though but a beginner in art, is by no means young. "It produces," writes our correspondent, "a strange effect to see such weariness with such rawness, such force with such inexperience. She is more weary than Desclée, and, at moments, more terrible. *Dalilah*—the one drama in which Octave Feuillet has allowed himself to be repulsive—is the piece in which she should play."

M. HENRI DE LAPOMMERATE's first spoken dramatic criticism, delivered a few days ago in the lecture-room on the Boulevard des Capucines, was decidedly successful. A "first night" at the theatre could hardly have attracted a better audience—poets, critics, actors, publishers, and women of the world "assisted" at what we were about to call the "representation" for M. de Lapommerate did more than criticise—he read certain scenes: notably one scene from *Le Demi Monde*, which produced, they say, an excellent effect.

WITH *Le Tour du Monde en Quatre-vingts Jours*, the Théâtre de la Porte Saint Martin has made sure of a popular success which will suffice for the winter. The adventures of an Englishman, when an Englishman is eccentric, as in the eyes of the Paris population he is pretty sure to be, are always amusing, and specially amusing when it falls to the lot of an entertaining Frenchman, like M. Jules Verne, to take him round the world in eighty days. Some dramatic element, however, was wanting to the work, already easily fitted to a spectacular entertainment, and this has been supplied by the accomplished M. Denney, one of the authoress of *Les Deux Orphelines*, who has here worked in a lighter mood. Dumaine, Lacressoniére, Vannoy and Alexandre appear in the piece, but their parts are hardly such as can add to their reputation, though the piece gains in effectiveness by their presence.

Giroflé Giroflé, given in Paris at the Renaissance Theatre, has in the opinion of one at least of its critics the disadvantage of employing those who are better, or would be better, in comedy than in *opéra bouffe*. Mdlle. Granier, a delicate young actress, with a frail voice and an excellent talent, will probably suffer by playing every night such a long and difficult part as that of the heroine. Mdlle. Alphonsine is properly funny in the piece, and so is Monsieur Baron.

APROPOS of the recent revival of an early piece by Auguste Vacquerel, who has since done better work, M. Caraguel, writing in the *Débats*, recalls the day of its first production. When it was over—and it had been listened to with impatience—Frederick Lemaitre, who played in it, stepped forward and said to the audience that had already hissed it, "Ladies and gentlemen, the author of this piece wished the piece played, and I promised to act the principal part. Now that I have fulfilled my duty to the best of my ability, I may confess my agreement with your verdict. You have pronounced the piece bad. Ladies and gentlemen, in my opinion it is detestable. *Vive la République!*" And he withdrew.

MUSIC.

CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERTS.

THE musical event of the week has undoubtedly been the production at Sydenham for the first time in this country of a symphony by one of the most prominent living German composers—Joachim Raff. Though well known and highly esteemed on the continent, he has still, like many other of his countrymen, to make his way here. True, a few of his works have from time to time been heard in England. Dr. Hans von Bülow introduced his pianoforte concerto at the first of last season's concerts of the Wagner Society; Mr. Charles Hallé has given a part (if not the whole) of his great symphony "Im Walde" at his concerts in Manchester, and has also played some of his chamber compositions at his recitals; but until last Saturday not one of his symphonies had been heard in London. And yet Raff is undoubtedly the most distinguished symphony writer now living. He has produced in all six compositions of this class, the more recent of which we propose shortly to review in these pages. For the present we must confine ourselves to the fifth, that entitled "Lenore," which was the one given last week. The subject of the present work is taken from

Bürgers well-known ballad of the same name. For those of our readers who may be unacquainted with it, it may be well to say that it tells how a young maiden, Lenore, whose lover had gone to the wars and failed to return, curses her fate, and longs for death. That night her lover comes to her chamber telling her to mount his charger and ride behind him a hundred leagues to their wedding feast. She obeys, and away they go, over hill and dale. As they fly along the ravens flap their wings, the frogs croak, they pass a funeral procession, they see a group of ghosts dancing round the corpse of a felon hanging on a gibbet, and everything, as they pass, joins them in their flight. At daybreak they reach a churchyard, and by an open grave Lenore finds herself clasping a corpse, and expires at the side of her lover. Such a ghastly programme would be obviously unsuited for the subject-matter of an entire symphony; and Herr Raff has therefore only treated it in the finale, to which the first three movements may be considered preliminary.

The symphony is divided into three parts: the first, entitled "Liebesglück," comprises the opening allegro, and the slow movement (Andante quasi larghetto). These two numbers evidently depict various phases of a happy love. In the first allegro we have the gushing exuberance of passion. Here all is warmth and luxuriance. The profusion of melody, the richness and variety of harmony, and the glow of the orchestral colouring, combine to form a tone-picture as interesting musically as it is true in expression. To this succeeds a tranquil love-scene, which is certainly somewhat long, but, as the length arises from the wealth of ideas, not wearisome. Especially remarkable in this movement are the passionate episode in G sharp minor (p. 78 of the score) and the exquisite close, with the long sustained harmonies for the strings, over which the flute and clarinet hover, one might almost say lovingly, while the sullen pulsation of the drum seems to give a warning of coming ill. The third movement of the symphony, inscribed "Trennung," is a grand march, instead of the customary scherzo. The change is here fully warranted by the scheme of the work. Lenore's lover is to depart for the field, and the march itself is interrupted by an *agitato* movement taking the place of the usual trio, in which the farewell of the fond pair is evidently depicted. The subject of the march itself is slightly commonplace, but it is treated with such masterly skill as to afford a striking example of what can be done by a thoroughly competent musician with not over-promising materials. The orchestration is especially fine, sonorous and brilliant in the highest degree, and yet never too noisy or overloaded. At the end of the movement the music dies away into silence, as the last footsteps of the departing army are wafted back by the wind.

The finale (the fourth movement, and third section of the work) is entitled "Wieder vereinigung im Tode," and deals with Bürgers ballad above mentioned. This, we cannot but think, is far inferior to the rest of the work. An enquiry into the reason of this opens up the whole wide question of "programme-music," into which it is impossible here to enter. Suffice it to say that while the preceding portions of the symphony have all depicted what is fairly within the province of music, it seems to us that here more is attempted than from the very nature of the art can possibly be carried out. The ride of the ghostly horseman, with all its concomitant horrors, is not a suitable subject for musical illustration. It is impossible to be insensible to the wild strange power which pervades this very remarkable finale; some of the orchestral effects, indeed, are marvellous; but the impression produced by the whole movement is not, for the reasons above given, satisfactory. The work as a whole is, nevertheless, a masterpiece; and its performance will doubtless cause the introduction of other of Raff's symphonies to our concert audiences. The

execution of the symphony, which makes no small demands on all the players, was a magnificent triumph for Mr. Manns and his fine band. It may safely be asserted that never has a finer first performance of a difficult work been given; while the enthusiastic applause with which each movement was greeted showed that it was fully appreciated by the audience. Seldom, if ever, has a new symphony received such an ovation as that bestowed on "Lenore."

A very few lines must suffice for the remainder of the concert. The overtures were Beethoven's *Coriolan* and Boieldieu's *Les Deux Nuits*—the latter a pleasing though not great work, which was given on this occasion for the first time at these concerts. The instrumental soloist was Mr. Walter Bache, who made his first appearance at these concerts in Liszt's arrangement for piano and orchestra of Weber's Polacca in E. Mr. Bache's name will be familiar to readers of the ACADEMY; it will therefore be needless to say more than that he played in his usual finished and thoroughly artistic style. The vocalists were Madame Otto-Alvæsen and Mr. Santley, both of whom are too well known to require any praise here. To-day Liszt's Second Pianoforte Concerto is to be played, for the first time in England, by Mr. Dannreuther.

EBENEZER PROUT.

THE second of the Monday Popular Concerts, which took place last Monday, was fully as interesting as the first. Signor Piatti, who was sufficiently recovered from his recent indisposition to be able to appear, received, it need hardly be said, a most hearty welcome from the audience. The novelty of the evening was Spohr's trio in A minor, Op. 124—the third of a series of five which this composer has written, and which had not been given previously at these concerts. It is a pleasing rather than a very great work, marked by all Spohr's peculiarities and even mannerisms, but full of graceful melody, and well worthy of occasional performance. It was admirably played by Dr. Bülow and Messrs. Straus and Piatti. The great pianist chose for his solo Handel's Suite in D minor, which he gave with such effect as to obtain a double recall. He also joined Signor Piatti in Beethoven's Sonata in F, Op. 5, No. 1. The quartett of the evening, admirably given by Messrs. Straus, Ries, Zerbini, and Piatti, was Schumann's No. 1 in A minor, one of his most original and interesting compositions. The vocalist was Mdlle. Nita Gaetano, and the accompanist Mr. Zerbini.

THE programmes of the past week of the Albert Hall Concerts have fully sustained the promise of their opening. Among the most important works given on Tuesday (the English Night) were Bennett's *Naiades* overture, Mr. G. A. Macfarren's new "Festival" overture, Sir Julius Benedict's symphony in G minor, Mendelssohn's concerto for piano in the same key (played by Mr. Franklin Taylor), and Mr. H. Gadsby's clever overture to *Andromeda*. Wednesday was a "Beethoven" night, the works being entirely those of his earlier period. These will be, we presume, followed by illustrations of his later periods; so that these concerts will have a really educational aim. Among the works in Wednesday's programme were the symphony in D, the concerto in C minor (Miss Agnes Zimmerman), and the overture and march from *Prometheus*. On Thursday the *Hymn of Praise* and Rossini's *Stabat Mater* were given; and at the "Wagner Night" on Friday, in addition to a selection from *Lohengrin* and Wagner's "Huldigungsmarsch," Liszt's First Concerto and his Hungarian Fantasia were announced to be played by Dr. Bülow. The programmes of the "Ballad Night," last Monday, and of the "Popular Night," this evening, are, in a lighter style, quite as good as those which we have specified.

THE ninth season of Mr. Henry Holmes's "Musical Evenings" opened on Wednesday last at St. George's Hall. The opening piece was Schu-

bert's great quartett in G, Op. 161. This truly magnificent work is so seldom heard in public, that Mr. Holmes deserves the warmest thanks of all musicians for bringing it forward. Though very long (occupying even with the omission of most of the repeats three-quarters of an hour) its beauties are so many and so great, that it was listened to by the audience without a sign of weariness. The performance by Messrs. Holmes, Betjemann, Amor, and Pezze, was in all respects worthy of the music. Finer quartett playing is indeed seldom if ever to be heard. The other principal items of the evening were Beethoven's quartett (No. 4) in C minor; Mr. Walter Macfarren's interesting and well-written sonata for piano and violoncello, well played by the composer and Signor Pezze; a violin solo composed and performed by Mr. Henry Holmes; and Mendelssohn's "Variations Sérieuses," played by Mr. Walter Macfarren. The vocalist was Miss Emma Beasley. Such excellent musical entertainments as Mr. Holmes's deserve all possible encouragement.

MR. WILLIAM REA, of Newcastle, has lately brought to a successful conclusion the ninth of his annual series of orchestral concerts in that town. An excellent band of twenty-six stringed, and twenty wind instruments, including many well-known London professionals, and led by Mr. J. T. Carrodus, was engaged. How much good Mr. Rea is doing in the north by such excellent concerts may be seen when it is said that, in addition to miscellaneous vocal and instrumental music, overtures, marches, &c., eight complete symphonies and six concertos were given during the series. The following larger works were also performed:—Handel's *Messiah* and *Judas Maccabaeus*; Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, *Athalie*, and the finale to *Loreley*; Schumann's *Paradise and the Peri*; and Randecker's *Fridolin*. We are happy to add, on the authority of competent judges who were present, that the execution was worthy of the music.

MDLLE. MARIE KREBS will make her first appearance at the Monday Popular Concerts on January 11.

A TALENTED young singer, Fräulein Louise Proch, the daughter of the well-known Capellmeister and composer, Heinrich Proch, of Vienna, will appear in June and July next at the London Opera—the *Neue Freie Presse* does not state which.

ANTON RUBINSTEIN is at present in Paris, for the purpose of arranging with M. Halanzier for the production of his new opera of *Nero* as one of the first novelties of the New Opera.

THE death is announced of Herr Albert Wagner, the late stage manager of the Royal Opera, who died suddenly on the 31st ult. in Berlin, in his seventy-fifth year. Albert Wagner was the eldest brother of Richard Wagner, and the father of Frau Jachmann-Wagner, the celebrated tragic actress and prima donna. He was born at Leipzig, and educated as a dramatic singer, in which quality he made his first appearance on the stage of his native town as Joseph in Méhul's opera of that name.

THE prize lately offered by the "Tonkünstlerverein" of Cologne for the best pianoforte quintett has been awarded to Herr J. Schapler, of Thorn; and Herr W. J. Heller, of Hermannstadt, has received honorary mention as the second best.

MUSICIANS and painters are combining to give the Viennese public some really enjoyable evenings this winter. On December 1 there will commence at the "Musikverein" a series of "Musical and Picturesque Performances." Magnificent transparent pictures, designed and executed by some of our greatest painters (Hans Makart among them), will illustrate the different phases of

the Passion history, whilst—mysteriously and invisibly, as Richard Wagner dreams it—chorus and orchestra will, with their lovely strains, reproduce the "Stimmung" of the picture. Among the works which will be thus illustrated there are to be oratorios by Handel, Mendelssohn, Bach, and others, and a new Christmas cantata by a young Russian lady composer, Mdlle. Adajewsky; also excerpts from Liszt's *Christus*. Director Hellmesberger will be the musical conductor. A similar enterprise in Berlin has been very successful these last few years, and so it is to be hoped that the undertaking in Vienna, which is to be on a grander and more artistic scale, will also command success.

MDLLE. EICHBERG, of Berlin, intends shortly to give a performance of Wagner's *Rheingold* in that city, with pianoforte accompaniment (!) and the best available vocalists.

It is now stated that the Abbé Liszt will not, as previously announced (see ACADEMY for October 31), take part in the projected Wagner concerts at Vienna, as he intends to go to Pesth for two months, and to spend the rest of the winter at Weimar.

THE Imperial Russian Musical Society in St. Petersburg announces a series of five concerts during the coming winter, at which the following works are to be performed—a new symphony by Anton Rubinstein, and the same composer's oratorio *Das verlorene Paradies*; "Demon," a symphonic poem by Naprawnik; a Fantasia on Shakespeare's *Tempest* by Tschaikowsky; Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony, and Schumann's Symphony in B flat, Mendelssohn's *Midsummer Night's Dream* music, and Mozart's "Requiem."

THE *Leeds Weekly Express* of last Saturday contains some interesting details as to the attendances, receipts, &c., at the recent festival. It appears that by far the largest audience was drawn together by Schumann's *Paradise and the Peri*, while *St. Paul* proved the least attractive performance. Though the accounts are not yet finally made up, it is known that there will be a net balance of at least 1,000L. It has been decided to give one-half of the profits to the Leeds Infirmary, one-fourth to the Dispensary, one-eighth to the Hospital for Women and Children, and one-eighth to the House of Recovery.

M. REYER, in the *Débats* of the 15th inst., speaks very favourably of a young singer, Mdlle. Henriette Lory, who has just made her *début* at the Paris Opera as Zerline in *Don Giovanni*.

THE new opera, *The Taming of the Shrew*, by Hermann Götz, is now in rehearsal at the Hofopern Theatre at Vienna.

AUBER's opera *Le Premier Jour de Bonheur* was produced at the Vienna Komische Oper on the 7th of this month, and had a sensational success. Herr Erl and Fräulein Tremel and Jäger had the principal parts.

RUBINSTEIN's opera *Die Maccabäer* will be produced next February in Berlin. The composer, who is at present in Paris, will give two great concerts in Vienna on his return from Berlin, where he will rehearse and conduct his own opera. His last opera, *Nero*, will be produced next season at Paris.

JOHANN STRAUSS has, according to the *Neue Freie Presse*, entered into negotiations with a great Parisian publisher to compose for him an opera to a French libretto. Two principal theatres of Paris are in competition for the right of producing it.

WEBER's *Euryanthe* and Spohr's *Jessonda* have, according to private letters from Wiesbaden, been very successfully revived at the Hoftheater, with Fräulein Gungl in the principal parts. Spohr's *Jessonda*, we believe, has for many years not been on the *répertoire* of any opera-stage.

POSTSCRIPT.

MR. AND MRS. KENDAL are this week at Birmingham, playing in *The Hunchback* and in *Romeo and Juliet*, and in the tragedy of Shakspere they have been greatly successful.

AT a meeting of the Numismatic Society, held on November 19, the President (Mr. Evans) exhibited an angel of Henry VII. with the name Henricus in full and what appears to be the numeral 7, an angel of Mary with Roman letters, and another of the first coinage of Elizabeth.

A paper was read on Jewish Numismatics by Mr. Madden, designed to discuss the most important theories on this subject which have been advanced since the publication of Mr. Madden's book on Jewish coins in 1864. The most interesting of these is the latest theory of M. de Sauley as set forth in his *Etudes Chronologiques des Temps d'Esdras et de Néhémie*, wherein he attributes the shekels formerly ascribed by him to the high-priest Jaddua, and by Madden to the time of the Maccabees, to the time of the prophet Ezra, an attribution in which he has been followed by Lenormant in his work on the Phoenician alphabet.

THE *Nürnberger Stadtzeitung* publishes a letter from Dr. Essenwein, of the Germanische Museum, in which he proposes that a picture gallery shall be established in Nürnberg worthy of the size and historical importance of the town. We do not wonder that Nürnberg feels somewhat ashamed of the poor display she now makes in pictorial art, considering the great works that her masters executed of old, but although she has been robbed of most of the painted treasures bequeathed by her children, or worse still, has been obliged to yield them with forced grace to greedy emperors and electors, a few still remain that would have great interest in any collection. The Nürnberg magistrates received Dr. Essenwein's proposition most favourably, and his plan will no doubt soon be carried out. The Germanic Museum offers a suitable locality for such a gallery; in fact, it will be merely an extension, so far as we can understand, of that valuable institution, which already possesses in Dürer's noble portrait of Holzschuher the nucleus of a worthy collection of the works of national masters. The very poor collection in the Rathhaus, and the painful productions of early German art in the Moritz-Capelle are at present all that Nürnberg can boast of in the way of picture galleries.

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